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M E R I C A N

RIS SOCIETY



Bulletin

July 2000

Avis and the Darktops



AVIS (Varner '64)



I. imbricata



CUP OF COCOA (Plough '82)

SEA VENTURE (B. Jones '72)



HAWAIIAN QUEEN (Shoop '86)



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AIS Bulletin

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The American Iris Society

Officers & Committee Chairpeople

THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY IS A NONPROFIT INSTITUTION INCORPORATED FEBRUARY 2, 1927, IN the County of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania. By the terms of the Charter, the Corporation has no stockholders and exists for the sole purpose of promoting the culture and improvement of the *Iris*.

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Society for Siberian Iris	5.00	13.00	6.00	15.00
Spuria Iris Society	6.00	15.00	8.00	18.00
Society for Japanese Iris	3.50	9.00	4.00	10.50
Reblooming Iris Society	7.00	18.00	8.00	21.00
Society for PCNs	6.00	15.00	8.00	18.00
Species Iris Group	5.00	12.00	6.00	15.00
Dwarf Iris Society	4.50	12.00	6.75	18.00
Historic Iris Preservation Society	5.00	12.00	6.00	15.00
Aril Society International	10.00	28.00	13.50	33.50
Society for Louisiana Irises	7.50	18.00	9.00	22.50

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President's Message

by Clarence Mahan, Virginia

THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY HAS AT ITS CORE MANY DEDICATED members who care deeply and sincerely for the welfare of the society. The joy of growing and promoting irises may be the initial reason for joining, but soon friendships, shared activities and fellowship become equally important. When differences have surfaced in the past, members have worked to resolve them and restore harmony.

One issue has been roiling behind the scenes for some time. About three years ago, several AIS members organized a new group and recruited other AIS members to join the Tall Bearded Iris Society. I joined the Tall Bearded Iris Society as a charter member and, at the request of the Tall Bearded Iris Society editor, wrote an article for the first issue of its journal. Although the leaders of this group insisted that they wished to cooperate with AIS, they drafted bylaws that caused many AIS members, including officers, directors, section presidents and regional vice presidents, to have serious concerns.

When organizers of the Tall Bearded Iris Society petitioned the AIS Board of Directors for recognition as a "cooperating society" in 1998, the Board unanimously adopted the report of an advisory committee, which had been appointed by president Dave Niswonger to study the request. This report, which expressed a number of serious concerns about Tall Bearded Iris Society bylaws, was published in the July 1998 *Bulletin*.

Several organizers of the Tall Bearded Iris Society stated that their primary reason for initially rejecting section status was that AIS bylaws required members of sections to be AIS members. Consequently, the AIS Board of Directors initiated a change to AIS bylaws to remove the provision that Tall Bearded Iris Society organizers considered offensive. This change to the AIS bylaws was approved by the entire membership last year.

Having initiated the action that changed the AIS bylaws, the AIS Board of Directors passed a resolution last November. This resolution

asked the Tall Bearded Iris Society to accept AIS section status. The president of the Tall Bearded Iris Society responded to this positive AIS Board action with a letter asking for an “up or down” vote on a resolution recognizing the Tall Bearded Iris Society as a cooperating society.

The difference between a cooperating society and a section is that a section must abide by AIS bylaws and policies—a cooperating society does not. This is the fundamental issue.

In Dallas, the AIS Board complied with the Tall Bearded Iris Society president’s request. The petition for cooperating society status was overwhelmingly rejected. The AIS Board then passed a resolution inviting the Tall Bearded Iris Society to become an AIS section with only two conditions. This resolution passed unanimously.

One condition is that the Tall Bearded Iris Society define “members” in the same way AIS does. This is necessary for legal reasons, but there is also a philosophical issue involved. The issue is the principle of “one person, one vote.” Under AIS bylaws, every AIS member is a full voting member. This includes youth members and both members in a “dual” membership. The Tall Bearded Iris Society bylaws allow only one vote per “address,” meaning that wives, husbands, children, significant others, and life partners do not get individual votes if they live at the same address.

The second condition is that the Tall Bearded Iris Society hold its annual spring meetings at the AIS national convention and not hold spring meetings/conventions at places and dates different from that of the AIS convention. The report in the July 1998 *Bulletin* had previously explained the reason for this condition:

“It is the view of the Committee that competing spring conventions would be extremely fractionating of the membership, based on personal dominant interests... the expenses of attending two national conventions per year would work a prohibitive hardship on most members, the majority of whom are tall bearded oriented. These members would be forced by financial and/or time constraints to choose between the TBIS and AIS conventions, even though the AIS would continue with its long-standing policy of holding its convention during the expected local peak bloom of the TB irises. The Committee feels strongly that the AIS would be incapable of sustaining a successful national convention without the participation of its core TB constituency.”

The issue of competing conventions is not an idle concern. This year, after the AIS national convention in Dallas, the Tall Bearded Iris Society held a spring meeting in Oregon at the same time as the Region 13 spring

meeting. This was, as you might expect, a cause of some unhappiness with Region 13. A number of the AIS members who attended the Tall Bearded Iris Society meeting and garden tour did not register for the AIS convention in Texas.

At the request of the president of the Tall Bearded Iris Society, I sent him a letter in April documenting the action of the Board of Directors in Dallas, i.e. requesting that the Tall Bearded Iris Society accept the invitation to become a section. I am asking our editor to print this letter after this message so that everyone knows the facts. I just received word that the president of the Tall Bearded Iris Society informed people attending its meeting in Oregon that the leadership of that group was not accepting AIS section status, at least not at this time.

Having devoted a considerable amount of time and energy to accommodate the organizers of the Tall Bearded Iris Society, I take no pleasure in telling you that there have been few positive results. You may be confident, however, that the vast majority of AIS members, as well as most members of the Tall Bearded Iris Society, are dedicated to the best interests of AIS. You may also be confident that the actions of a few will not be allowed to subvert our society. (*See next page.*) 

Visit the AIS Website: www.irises.org

Index of Advertisers:

Advertisers are listed alphabetically:

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President's Letter to TBIS

April 27, 2000

Phillip A. Williams
P.O. Box 41
Eagleville, TN 37060-0041

Dear Phil,

This letter is written in response to your request that I commit to writing the results of the AIS Board of Directors action at the Dallas convention relative to the Tall Bearded Iris Society. The Board, with what was I believe one dissenting vote, did not deem it in the best interest of the AIS and its members to extend cooperating society status to the Tall Bearded Iris Society.

The Board of Directors unanimously voted to request that the Tall Bearded Iris Society accept its invitation to become a Section of AIS with only two conditions. These conditions are to align membership categories and definitions to agree with AIS membership categories and definitions, and to agree not to hold separate spring meetings or conventions at locations or times different from that of the AIS convention. The reason for the latter condition is to preclude competition between the AIS and one of its Sections for attendance at spring meetings/conventions. Such competition would, of course, be detrimental to AIS and its members. I should imagine that this also concerns TBIS leaders since the vast majority of TBIS members are also AIS members.

One TBIS director approached me after the AIS Board Meeting and indicated that in her opinion the AIS condition that separate conventions not be held seemed discriminatory because other Sections sometimes hold "mini-conventions." This is true. However, AIS does not hold a convention to coincide with the bloom season of other types of irises---only with tall bearded irises and those that bloom at the same time as tall bearded irises. Implicit in Section status is the obligation not to duplicate AIS core functions or act in ways detrimental to AIS sponsored programs and activities.

Since you were present and took part in the discussion of these matters, as were several other TBIS directors, officers and quite a few members, I am sure you saw that almost everyone who was there was enthusiastic about TBIS becoming an AIS Section. After all, the AIS has even amended its bylaws to remove what TBIS leaders previously identified was the primary obstacle to acceptance of Section status.

Sincerely,
Clarence Mahan

Annual President's Letter

to The American Iris Society

April 16, 2000

Each year the terms of office expire for one third of the twelve directors of the American Iris Society; and four are elected to fill those positions. As provided in the AIS bylaws, a five member Personnel Committee recommends to the AIS Board of Directors a selection of candidates for nomination as directors. From this list the incumbent Board of Directors chooses by written ballot the slate of four candidates to be presented to the membership.

The Personnel Committee consists of five members selected to serve each year from their parent body: two directors selected by the Board of Directors, two RVPs selected by the Board of Counselors, and one section representative selected by the Section Advisory Board.

Approved during the 2000 spring meeting held in Dallas, Texas, in accordance with the AIS bylaws, the following four individuals are the 2000 nominees for regular three year terms expiring in the fall of the year 2003:

Candidate #1	E. Roy Epperson
Candidate #2	Paul Gossett
Candidate #3	Jean Morris
Candidate #4	Bonnie Nichols

The bylaws provide that additional nominations may be made by any forty members, of whom not more than fifteen may be located in any one region. Such additional nominations must be received by the AIS Secretary on or before September 1, 2000. Should additional nominations be made, a ballot on which all nominees are listed will be mailed on or before October 1, 2000, to all AIS members and must be received by the AIS Secretary or Election Committee (if one is appointed) on or before November 1, 2000. If there are no nominations in addition to those listed above, issuance of a ballot shall be omitted and the original nominees considered elected.

Clarence Mahan, President

Editor's Message

by Terry Aitken, Washington State

NATIONAL CONVENTIONS ARE INTENDED TO INSPIRE hybridizers to greater effort, to inform judges about the cutting edge of iris development and to awe the casual observer at the wonders that the plant world has produced. In selecting a cover photo for this issue, I filtered through my six hundred new slides to find a photo that best depicted that theme. Joe Ghio's #94-118H2 came up as the right iris at the right time. May all hybridizers be so fortunate as to discover such a fine specimen in their seedling patch!

In the April 2000 *Bulletin*, page 83, last paragraph, the name "Kathy" should be replaced by "Jane" (Hall).

The Editor's position remains open since the Board has deferred a decision until the fall board meeting, with the request that the editor make a more formal "advertisement". Applications for the Positions of Membership Secretary and Editor follow. ☺

Request for Applications to fill the Position of Membership Secretary

The American Iris Society is searching for a person to assume the task of Membership Secretary. Interested parties should contact Jeanne Clay Plank for job description.

Applicants should provide the following information:

- Access to computer equipment (AIS may provide computer equipment as needed)
- Expected remuneration, or paid benefits.

Applicants should submit a letter of interest, no later than October 1, 2000, to the Chair of Search Committee,

Jeanne Clay Plank
8426 Vine Valley Drive
Sun Valley, CA 91352-3656

Request for Applications to fill the Position of Editor

The Board Directors of the American Iris Society invites applications for the position of Editor of the *Bulletin*. Resume should include education, work experience, particularly that which relates to financial responsibility, administrative and communications skills and any experience directly related to the publication of journals. Applicant should also provide the following information:

- 3 references with names, addresses and phone numbers
- current job status, or time constraints
- expected remuneration
- access to computer equipment (AIS may provide computer, communications and reproduction equipment as needed.)

Interested parties should submit written proposals no later than October 1, 2000, to the Chair of Search Committee,

Jeanne Clay Plank
8426 Vine Valley Drive
Sun Valley, CA 91352-3656

The editor has completed the Board requested annual diary of the editor's activities. Interested applicants should contact the editor for copies of this information. (This can be sent via email.)

Editor Job Description:

1. Coordinate the work of the *Bulletin* editorial team (volunteers within the AIS) and production team (professional services outside of the AIS).
2. Arrange for the work of subcontractors on the production team, including scheduling and cost estimates. These may include such activities as photo scanning, desktop publishing, film output, press work, binderies, mailing services and envelopes.
3. Coordinate the work of the editorial team which includes the chairs of most of the Standing Committees; special assignments such as convention reports, topical information from veteran irisarians, international reports, news from Sections of general interest, Advertising, Membership, Webmaster and Desktop publisher.
4. Select photos to accompany or illustrate articles. Contact sources of photos.
5. Select the mix of articles from available materials. Edit material as appropriate for *Bulletin* use. The editor exercises considerable flexibility in this area.
6. Prepare an annual report for the Fall Board Meeting which includes costs for the current year and a budget projection for the coming year. A progress report can be given at the spring board meeting.

Youth Views

Clarke Cosgrove Winners

by Jean Morris, Missouri

Stephanie Rust

ONGRATULATIONS TO FOURTEEN-YEAR-OLD STEPHANIE Rust of Union, Missouri, winner of this year's Clarke Cosgrove Memorial Award for Youth Achievement. Stephanie enjoys nearly every aspect of the iris—growing, showing, hybridizing, promoting, judging, designing, writing and volunteering to help her local affiliate, the Washington Iris Club. She also belongs to the Greater St. Louis Iris Society and holds membership in almost every Section and Cooperating Society of the AIS. In addition, she is a member of the British Iris Society.

Stephanie grows several hundred irises representing every class except Pacific Coast irises. She enters several shows each year in the horticulture, design and educational divisions. She has won many ribbons and rosettes along with eight Youth Silver Medals. In competition with adults she has won Best In-Region Hybridized Iris, Best TB, Best of Show and Best Seedling with a Schreiners' seedling she is guesting. She is the winner of the Region 18 Stanley Goodman Youth Award.

The most impressive of Stephanie's iris interests is her unique and ambitious hybridizing program. She is working toward two goals -- a quality broken-color reblooming iris and an MTB with aril characteristics. Assembling a great deal of breeding stock was a necessary first step before making the initial crosses pointing toward these lofty goals. Stephanie contacted dozens of experienced hybridizers for advice and plant sources. Acquisitions included *I. apyllas*, *I. albertii*, *I. imbricata*, aril species, rebloomers, MTBs, IBs, BBs and TBs. She now grows hundreds of seedlings realizing it may take years to see progress; but she is willing to put forth the effort and wait for results.

Stephanie promotes irises and the AIS to anyone who seems interested. She won the AIS Membership Contest in the Youth Division in 1997. She attends regional tours and loves to visit local gardens. She has earned the credit hours for appointment as an Apprentice Judge.

Creating iris designs has become one of Stephanie's favorite activities. She has attended classes to improve her technique and has had much success at shows.

Stephanie is a working member of the Washington Iris Club. Her enthusiasm attracts repeat customers at iris sales. She also donates a great many rhizomes each year, geared to the best sellers of previous years. She serves as Youth Advisor for the club, clerks shows, provides refreshments and helps out wherever needed. She made items for the Region 18 Youth Boutique and is presently in charge of selling AIS youth T-shirts.

Affiliates ask Stephanie to present programs and Editors request that she write articles for their publications.

Stephanie is described by her nominators as helpful, creative, considerate, innovative and a well-rounded irisarian.

Monica Combrink

In the Clarke Cosgrove First runner-up position is seventeen-year-old Monica Combrink of Glencoe, Oklahoma. Monica grows over 300 varieties of TBs and Medians and promotes irises through 4-H. She is President of her local 4-H Club, is 4-H State Ambassador and was a delegate to the National 4-H Congress in Atlanta last year. She has given iris talks, workshops and live-action demonstrations at 4-H clubs, camps and county fairs. At these events she has donated over 1200 iris rhizomes along with planting instructions. She has made a concerted effort to introduce Median irises to gardeners in Region 22.

Monica planted iris seeds given to her by a hybridizer, and the following year made some crosses of her own. More hybridizing may be on the agenda in the future.

Monica is a tireless worker for her club, the North Central Iris Society. She has donated iris rhizomes for their sales, given club programs, entered shows and helped host a garden for a national Median Tour. She has many show awards to her credit. Monica makes excellent designs for the NCIS shows. She also won the Grand Championship in the Floral Show at the county fair.

In 1995 Monica won the Ackerman Youth Essay Contest with her well written entry, "What is So Great About an Iris?" Monica is described as hard working, cheerful, generous and a joy to all who know her.

Marc Loberg

This year's Second runner-up in the Clarke Cosgrove Contest is fourteen-year-old Marc Loberg of Redwood Valley, California. Marc grows some 50 TBs and Medians and likes contrasting beards.

He has had many successes at shows and enjoys going on local, national and Region 14 Tours. He has signed up new members for the AIS.

Marc began hybridizing two years ago at first randomly, then selectively. It is interesting to note that Marc also breeds Netherland Dwarf rabbits in 4-H and has studied their color genetics in order to predict the color make-up he can expect in the litters.

Marc is a member of the Redwood Iris Society. He has begun Judge's Training classes and is trying to learn more about hybridizing. He is described as knowledgeable, easy going, witty and a willing worker.

Congratulations to all three of our youth winners. They are assets to their clubs, regions and the AIS. Thanks to their nominators and to everyone who has fostered their iris interests and contributed to their success. ☺

Historical Chronicles Project

The Board of Directors of the AIS is happy to announce the appointment of Anner Whitehead to the ad hoc committee chairmanship of the New Historical Chronicles Project, with the title of Project Director.

Anyone wishing to contact Anner can reach her by email <AISChronicles@aol.com> or by writing her at:

Anner Whitehead
3212 Patterson Avenue
Richmond, VA 23221

International News

by George & Margaret Sutton, California
and Bruce Filardi, Oregon

From the New Zealand March, 2000 Bulletin:

The national Symposium committee has planned an excellent event to celebrate our first fifty years...With large numbers of overseas irisarians expected, Symposium 2000 is an opportunity for you to forge new friendships and to socialize with people with a common interest...It is an international gathering of the most eminent people in the iris world...The committee has set a deadline of 31 July 2000 for registration. The Symposium will be held November 2-6, 2000. Send registrations to Peter Berry, Apt 8D, Tower 1, 1 Marine Parade, Mount Maunganui, New Zealand. Cost is NZ \$280.00.

[Editor's Note: See January 2000 *Bulletin*, p.17-18 for details of Symposium and post Symposium Tours of the North and South Islands.]

From Darrelle Watson, South Australia Iris Society:

A few of our members are hybridizing...Ivar Schmidt has some lovely Japanese, and his and Carol's Pacific Coasts are beautiful...Peter Jackson's Louisianas are showing promise, and this year he is registering a very ruffled TB as WHITE PROSPECT...Pat Toolan is working with arils, and had some lovely things last year; Ann Pearce is still trying rebloomers; Colleen Modra has some interesting colour patterns, is trying rebloomers, and following on Kevin Nilsen's line of browns and reds. Jules DeBrenni has taken over horned varieties to play with; Gwen Alexandrou is experimenting with MTBs; and a few others are beginning to hybridize, including a couple of our Youth Group....The weather for the past 18 months has been way off...For many of us, early bloomers didn't materialize...Medium and late bloomers bloomed early. Our Louisianas and spurias bloomed with the TBs, my one JI rebloomed in January [equivalent to July in the northern hemisphere]...a lot of out-of-season bloom has been reported, but so far very few regular rebloomers have done anything.

From the Canadian Iris Society:

Ever since Dr. Jim Waddick and Professor Zhao Yu-tang first traveled together in China in 1989, SIGNA members have been kept abreast of their travels in search of wild iris in China. Now they are leading a two-week tour starting July 6th and returning July 21st. The port of departure and return is Seattle. It will cost \$3590 US... Highlight of the trip will be an excursion to view the flora of Changbai Mountain National Forest Park in Jilin Province near the North Korean border... Tour members will meet Chinese botanists, growers and other experts and have a chance to acquire desirable seeds and nursery-grown plants... Travel will also include cultural sites such as the Great Wall in Beijing and the terra-cotta warriors in Xian... The trip ties in with an optional 4-day side trip to Japan Flora 2000, a 300-acre, international exhibition of horticulture and landscaping on Awaji Island near Kobe.

From Italy:

Awards at the recent International Iris Competition in Florence are as follows:

Premio Firenze: DIABOLIQUE (Schreiner's)

- 2nd Place: DEEP DARK SECRET (Paul Black)
- 3rd Place: FLYING CARPET (Paul Black)
- 4th Place: COLOR GLORY (Paul Black)

Honorable Mentions:

- 5th Place: DAN THE MAN (93088E) (Merle Roberts)
- 6th Place: COLOR ME BLUE (Schreiner's)
- 7th Place: AGRODOLCE (Valeria Romoli)
- 8th Place: (tie) ART DECO (Schreiner's)
- 8th Place: (tie) ROSA VANITOSA (Augusto Bianco)
- 10th Place: BEHIND CLOSED DOORS (Sterling Innerst)

Best Blue: COLOR ME BLUE (Schreiner's)

Best Branching: DAN THE MAN (93088E) (Merle Roberts)

Best Commercial Variety: COLOR GLORY (Paul Black)

Best Early Bloomer: ART DECO (Schreiner's)

Best Scented Variety: AGRODOLCE (Valeria Romoli)

Best Late Bloomer: SEAKIST (Schreiner's)

Best Red: DYNAMITE (Schreiner's)

Most Unique Color: DEEP DARK SECRET (Paul Black)

Best Border Bearded: APRICOT TOPPING (Paul Black)

**From Harald Mathes, Germany,
and Lynn Markham, Massachusetts:**

Across the water in a recent letter from Harald Mathes of Gladbeck, Germany, comes the news that he has completed chromosome counts on two collected *I. aphylla* clones, the recessive white b66-2 (aka OSTRY WHITE) and smoky yellow H-17 (aka YELLOW CONUNDRUM). b66-2, as expected, proves to be a normal tetraploid with 48 chromosomes; H-17, however, has only 44, confirming our suspicions, based on its limited fertility and the presence of yellow in its petal color, that it is not pure aphylla but a natural hybrid. It's presently unclear what other species may be involved in its heritage, but perhaps one day that puzzle, too, will be solved. Meanwhile, Harald has been in touch with Dr. Milan Blazek of the Czech Republic, who originally collected b66-2 on Ostry Mountain in Bohemia, and learned that he has another white aphylla clone, collected in the area of Melnik. If Harald can obtain a start of this from Dr. Blazek and propagate it, it will eventually make its way to the US and give us one more important tool for our aphylla breeding arsenal! [This article originally appeared in *Irid-ISM*, the newsletter of the Iris Society of Massachusetts.]

Continuing our efforts to get international views of the best irises of the 1990s, following is Richard Cayeux's contribution. A longer article by Rainer Zeh on this topic appears elsewhere in this issue.

From Richard Cayeux, France:

I would recommend the following 12 irises of the 1990s:

White: FRISON-ROCHE (Cayeux '94), floriferous white, easy to grow.

Pink: BUISSON DE ROSES (Cayeux '98), pure salmon pink, very popular among our customers.

Orange: FEU DU CIEL (Cayeux '94), deep orange, good increaser, very good foliage.

Blue: PRINCESSE CAROLINE DE MONACO (Cayeux '98), pure sky blue with tangerine beard, 4th at the Denver Convention and 4th in Florence 1998; and YAQUINA BLUE (Schreiner '92), for us, perfection in marine blue.

Violet: INDIGO PRINCESS (Schreiner '92), not a surprising color, but perfection for form, growth,...

Plicata: FOOTLOOSE (Schreiner '93), a very early bloomer, delicate and rare color among the plicatas.

Amoena: BAL MASQUE (Cayeux '91) : A unique amoena with pansy violet falls and orange-red beard; ALIZES (Cayeux '91), for us, still the best contrast in blue amoenas (white and clear to medium pure blue) and also floriferous; SMILING FACES (Keppel '98), charming yellow amoena and almost a new form of flower; CELEBRATION SONG (Schreiner '93), two lovely pastel tones on the same flower and a very long bloom; and GOOD VIBRATIONS (Schreiner '97), perhaps the best iris among '90s introductions for its unique color combination. ☙



TIGER HONEY (Kasperek '94) TB



ROMANTIC EVENING (Ghio '96) TB

A German View

of the Decade

by Rainer Zeh, Germany

HORTLY BEFORE CHRISTMAS '99, I RECEIVED A LETTER FROM Bruce Filardi, asking me if I'd be willing to put together an article for the readers of the *AIS Bulletin*, a summary of the last 3 or 4 annual Iris Reports that I've written for the *Staudengarten*. At first I planned to decline; my calendar for the holidays already included two articles that I had promised to the *Staudengarten*, and I still had to prepare my catalogue for 2000. But before I even got a chance to respond, I got another letter from Bruce, asking me to expand my article to be a summary of the best irises of the *decade*. At that point I decided I'd better get to work fast! Otherwise, he might expand the request to the whole century, maybe even the entire millennium! I'm only 57 years old, so I think I'd better limit myself to the years where I have personal experience!

So here's the requested look back at the 1990s, even though this type of review is not really my way of looking at things. Why? Because I usually look at irises purely as a hybridizer—with a view to the future rather than to the past. As a result, I'm always looking for the newest and best introductions, and that's only possible when you part with the older ones after a few years. It's just a question of planting space, because the number of seedlings increases each year. But I do have to make one admission: In my garden there's a "nostalgia corner", a bed of the ones I just couldn't let go. And what's growing there? Well, it's only about 3'x 5', so there's only room for 10 or 12 plants—which works out to about one per year.

In my nostalgia bed you'll find YAQUINA BLUE (1992), the two-time Dykes Medal runner-up, from the world famous Schreiner blue line. And the light blue SILVERADO (1987) is there, too. Both of these Schreiner intros were well ahead of their time in terms of form and petal width. And then there's HONKYTONK BLUES (1988), the Schreiners' DM Winner of 1995, which I used more heavily in hybridizing, in

part due to its unique coloring. Ironically, with time I've found that I prefer the offspring of YAQUINA BLUE, although that isn't carved in stone, and my opinion could certainly change again. HONKY TONK BLUES gave me two outstanding new seedlings which bloomed last year, and it also produced the pale lavender UNCLE CHARLIE (Spoon 1999), which was very impressive at the 1999 AIS Convention; UNCLE CHARLIE (HONKY TONK BLUES X SILVERADO) is the result of a cross of two nostalgia bed residents. On the other hand, YAQUINA BLUE gave me my best seedling to date, #76-2-93, and it also produced the newly planted SEA POWER (Keppel 1999), which I'm anxious to see for its ruffling and its light edge.

Another Keppel iris which needs to be mentioned as the key iris in the quest for bright, colorful plicatas is GIGOLO ('83). Even if GIGOLO didn't convince the AIS Judges of its excellence as a garden plant—and thus failed to receive the very highest awards—it holds the premier role in the pedigrees of all the most distinctive modern plicatas. One of GIGOLO's earliest offspring was RASPBERRY FUDGE (Keppel '89), which heralded GIGOLO's potential as a parent. Two other Keppel plicatas were even more striking steps forward: the striped variegata plicatas JITTERBUG ('88) and LIGHT SHOW ('91); I have to say that I was totally in love with these two, and they still hold a special place in my heart—and that's despite a relatively poor stalk, which unfortunately tends to be passed on to their offspring. Since I didn't obtain any seedlings from them which were a step forward—or even as good as the parents—I've given up almost everything I bred from them. Just a few are left, such as my seedlings #7-1-91 and #7-6-91, with which I'll pursue further work. Since I haven't accomplished anything with these favorites, I'm hoping that I'll have more luck with the striped pattern in the future with the brand new dark plicata TANGLED WEB (Keppel '99).

WILD JASMINE (Hamner 1984) has a similar story to tell. Its seedlings here carried really unusual markings, but for some reason they never seemed to grow very well for me... and just gradually disappeared. Some of WILD JASMINE's offspring are so seductively beautiful that I wonder what would happen if we could have come up with a "real" cross! You, my reader, know that I'm talking about OWYHEE DESERT (Pinkston 1997), which was not a planned cross, but rather the gift of a bee—a fact which certainly doesn't make it any less beautiful. I have to admit that I didn't employ WILD JASMINE extensively in hybridizing; although I was crazy about its color and pattern, I thought its standards were too open and short, and I found that these faults were passed on in

the few crosses I made with it. Nevertheless, I have to say that I feel that Hamner's WILD JASMINE is one of the most underappreciated irises of the last 15 years, at least in terms of its underused breeding potential.

When I think of introductions which were particularly new and unusual in their time, two cultivars come to mind immediately; they aren't in my nostalgia bed, but they easily could be, and I came within a hair of saving them there: GALLANT ROGUE (Blyth 1990) and PAINTED PLIC (Ensminger 1983). I liked GALLANT ROGUE so much that I mentioned it many times in my iris articles, even though I admit that I found the standards a bit too open and the falls a bit too tailored for me to use in hybridizing; this was obviously a poor decision, as shown by many fine dark, red-bearded Keppel and Ghio bitones and bicolors which resulted from the use of GALLANT ROGUE and other Blyth cultivars. The Ghio line goes via ROMANTIC EVENING (1996) to the siblings IDOL (1999) and OCELOT (1998); the Keppel line goes from LOCAL COLOR and NIGHT GAME (both 1996) to WILD WINGS (1999). Since WILD WINGS is also a child of ROMANTIC EVENING, it would seem that a promising breeding line has developed. And we hope that this is just the beginning of many new colors and patterns—we'll know when we see the next few catalogues from these hybridizers.

And to return to PAINTED PLIC: I would really have liked to do some serious hybridizing with it, but I never seemed to find the right partner! It would seem that I should have tried anyway, as evidenced by the success of Brad Kasperek, who in 1999 received four AM awards, more than any other hybridizer. The striped plicatas [broken color] BEWILDERBEAST and TIGER HONEY (both 1995) made him the rising star of the year! But somehow we've taken a detour! So back to my little nostalgia bed, back to the ones that I couldn't part with over the last few years.

In my opinion, RUSTLER (Keppel 1988) is still one of the most beautiful and eyecatching irises in the garden. In fact, when the famous Palmengarten in Frankfurt asked my advice for a large iris planting, RUSTLER was the one I recommended. And it's still putting on a grand display there in its bed of granite/lava soil, while in my nostalgia bed it has just gotten smaller and smaller each year. And since none of its seedlings reproduced for me either the parental color or form, RUSTLER is now just a memory in my garden. And even that memory would probably have faded by now if I didn't get to see the display garden in Frankfurt, where I re-discover this beauty every year.

The collection at the Palmengarten also gives me an opportunity to see others of my old favorites which no longer have space in my home garden: Ghio's *SUCCESS STORY* ('88); Dunn's *DIVINE* ('88); Keppel's *SOCIAL EVENT* ('91); the Schreiners' *NIGHT RULER* ('90), *SUPREME SULTAN* ('88), and *EVENING MAGIC* ('90); Hager's *EDITH WOLFORD* ('86); and Gatty's *IN REVERSE* ('93). The display also includes newer standouts such as *FATAL ATTRACTION* ('94), *FANCY WOMAN* ('96), *SWINGTOWN* ('96), and *CROWNED HEADS* ('97). Many experts are already touting Keppel's *CROWNED HEADS* as a future DM Winner. And in the long run, Ghio's *HEAVEN* or Shoop's *SANTA* may prove even more important to the genus *Iris*, if one or both prove to be the long-sought key to lycopene-red petals.

Back at home in my nostalgia corner, you'll find *LATIN LARK* (Blyth 1988), an older one that I've never weeded out because of its attractive pattern. And I almost forgot to mention one from the recently departed master, Ben Hager: the mid-blue *DRUM ROLL* (1992), which I feel ranks with *RIPPLING RIVER* among the very finest blues. I had hoped to use *DRUM ROLL* in my hybridizing program because of its excellent form and its somewhat unusual pedigree, but it has been such a shy bloomer for me that crosses have been just about impossible!

I recently read an article in one of the American publications which sang the praises of *DRUM ROLL*. And thus the circle is completed, as I write these words for readers in America. Has this article given you anything to think about? I hope so! This is an attempt to take a look at the American iris scene from a different perspective—from the German point of view.

Our climate here is wet and cool, somewhat reminiscent of Oregon's—very different from typical California weather! It often takes 3 to 5 years for first bloom on a seedling, which explains why the selection of parents is crucially important. Our motto has to be "Speed up the process!" Before hybridizing can start, the right parents have to be located and obtained, they have to be finished flowers with regard to form and branching, in which case the color is just secondary. And this requires a critical eye. I mention this in the hope that you'll understand the way I have to look at my plants, and in hopes that this article won't seem overly critical. So I ask you, my reader, for your understanding of my methods, and for your recognition that this article represents my own subjective opinion of the irises I mention. And your opinion doesn't have to agree with mine! But if my article makes you give some thought to these irises, then I've accomplished my goal. I'll end my article now with warmest iris greetings from Germany! ☺

A Glimpse at Moraea

an Iris Relative

by John Weiler, California

RIS SPECIES OCCUR ONLY IN THE NORTHERN HEMISPHERE. THE beauty of their hybrids in our gardens is unchallenged by other plants from around the world. However, the family of plants to which irises belong, the Iridaceae, is cosmopolitan, very diverse and with some species occurring on all continents except Antarctica. It should be no surprise that a family of plants so widely distributed contains plants other than Iris which are attractive garden subjects. Crocus, Gladiolus, Freesia, and Tigridia are some commonly grown plants of the Iris family known to American gardeners. Still, there are many more garden-worthy genera that are almost unknown.

Perhaps nowhere in the world is the Iris family more diverse than in South Africa. From the vast array of Iridaceae occurring there, including the ancestors of our garden gladiolus and the florist's Freesia, one of my favorites is the genus *Moraea*. *Moraea* is quite variable and contains 120 or more species, several discovered within the past 25 years. Most are limited to the southwest third of South Africa with fewer species in the eastern part of the country and even fewer into the north in the more tropical nations of sub-Saharan Africa. This distribution has important implications for the person attempting to grow mormaeas.

Species from tropical areas have not been available for cultivation but would presumably grow only as conservatory or house plants in the US. Those from low elevations of South Africa grow in a mild climate where winter may produce only occasional frost, much as the climate in southern California. Furthermore, in the western part of the country, where most species occur, rainfall is confined to the winter months. The plants, then, are adapted to what is referred to as a Mediterranean climate with cool, moist winters and warm, dry summers. Most mormaeas respond to those same conditions under cultivation.

All mormaeas have flowers strongly resembling small irises although the three petals corresponding to standards are reduced in some species to

inconspicuous bristles or, rarely, may be totally missing. All are perennial, growing from small corms somewhat like *Crocus* and producing one to several leaves at the base of the flowering stem. Depending upon the species, stems range from about two to forty inches tall and produce one to nearly one hundred flowers per stem. From the large number of known species, I have selected a few to discuss that are easy to cultivate, showy, somewhat frost tolerant, and for which corms or seeds are often available.

One of the easiest and most often available species for the garden is *Moraea polystachya*. The two-inch flowers are a rich lavender blue with a bright yellow signal on each of the three outer, horizontally flaring petals. Inner petals are without a signal spot, open to ascending and later become horizontal. Each flower lasts three days and the twenty-four inch stems carry three to four branches and produce 30 – 60 or more flowers over a minimum period of eight weeks, beginning in late summer. The season can be manipulated and extended through winter into spring by storing some corms dry and planting at monthly intervals up to late winter. In central California the plants are subjected to frosts in the mid 20s every year during December and January and flower well. They have survived and flowered following temperatures as low as 18° F. but foliage has shown frost damage. Plants go dormant in early summer and should then be kept dry until mid-August. Although an occasional plant survives summer water in the garden, best displays are obtained in areas kept dry, or from corms dug at the onset of dormancy and stored dry like gladiolus until late summer. In cooler areas of the country, the plants may be grown in one gallon nursery containers, using well drained soil. Corms should be planted six to the container, about 2 inches deep, during late winter in a cool, frost free room and moved to the garden after hard frost is no longer expected. Natural increase is slow by division, but seed set is prodigious. Seeds germinate in 30 – 45 days during cool weather and flower during the third year.

Another easily cultivated species is *Moraea ramosissima*. As the name indicates, the stem is very much branched with multiple buds in each socket producing bright yellow, 2.5 inch flowers beginning with the close of tall bearded iris season. All six petals are reflexed but only the outer three have a tiny brownish line outlining a bright yellow signal area. Style arms are nearly erect and tend to form a tuft in the center of the flower. Although individual flowers last only one day, 60 – 90 buds per stem produce flowers in succession for over a month. Stems grow 36 – 40 inches tall and produce several shiny leaves near the base. Unlike most

species of *Moraea*, this one occurs naturally at streamside and in seepage areas. It thus appreciates a well-watered garden and tolerates summer water long after the plant has gone dormant in mid summer.

This species, too, has grown, flowered well, and withstood temperatures in the mid 20s although foliage may be damaged in colder weather. Because of its height, if grown in containers, it should be planted in two gallon or larger pots during mid to late winter in colder areas. Corms multiply well by dividing and even more rapidly by producing masses of tiny cormlets about the size of mustard seeds around each old corm and in the axils of the lower leaves. Plants also set seeds readily without hand pollination. Either seeds or cormlets will produce flowering plants during the third year.

A pair of closely related species is also good in a mild climate garden. *Moraea aristata* and *M. villosa* belong to the peacock group of the genus. The common name refers to the showy, colored eyespots at the base of the outer three petals; these eyespots may be blue or green to nearly black. Inner petals are reduced to small points, sometimes with lateral lobes. Both species produce a single basal leaf and a flowering stem 12 – 16 inches tall that may be unbranched or have one to two branches. Flowers range from two to six or seven per stem, remaining in bloom about three days per bloom and with buds opening sequentially to give about three weeks of bloom. *Moraea aristata*, once known as *Iris glaucopsis*, produces 2.5 inch flowers that are white with the undersides of petals flushed pale violet and having a striking basal eyespot of blue to turquoise edged with black. It increases slowly and sets seed modestly if hand pollinated. In nature, it is now nearly extinct and is known in the wild from only a single small population. *Moraea villosa* has leaves with a soft, hairy covering and produces broad petaled, 2.5 inch flowers with slightly cupped petals in a color range from near white through lavender blue and light violet to pinkish and rose. All have basal eyespots of dark blue or green to blackish violet. Plants multiply modestly from corms, but hand pollination produces good quantities of seed. Seedlings germinate in about 45 days in cool weather and flower well during the third year. Both species require summer dry conditions in the garden, tolerating no water after going dormant. Both are easily dug and stored dry until the next planting season if grown in a watered garden.

Because of their shorter stature, these latter two species are easily cultivated in containers. Six or eight corms in a six inch pot of well drained soil produce fine plants and a good floral display. Furthermore, they are easy to keep for the next growing season simply by letting the

pots dry out as dormancy begins with yellowing foliage, and storing them dry in the pots in which they grew. All four species in this report may be treated this way until they have multiplied to the point where they must be divided. All may also be dug and stored dry in paper sacks until the next planting season.

While I have written about only a few species, there are others that will prove easy in the garden. Some, mostly yellow flowered from higher mountain areas will tolerate considerably more frost. Others, especially those from more desert-like areas, are difficult to cultivate. Some are in bloom only for a couple of hours a day and would attract only the collector. There are a few choice ones that are rare and remain unavailable in this country despite their beauty. For those who may be interested in growing any of the above moraeas, seeds or cormlets are usually available from the AIS-SIGNA exchange lists each autumn. Others are sometimes available in specialist's seed lists both in the U.S. and in South Africa. ☺

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Moraea polystachya iridaceae



Moraea villosa iridaceae



Moraea aristata



Moraea ramosissima

Japanese Iris Convention

Portland, Oregon



Lee Walker Seedling



SING THE BLUES (Reid '97)

Best in Region



KOSHUI-NO-ASA (Shimizu '98)

Best out of Region

Japanese Iris Convention

HE SOCIETY FOR JAPANESE IRISES HELD THEIR NATIONAL convention June 24 -- 26, 1999, in Portland, Oregon. Iris bloom in the Northwest last spring was very late, and the Japanese season was no exception. However, irisarians are a resilient group of people who seem to enjoy whatever kinds of irises are in bloom at the time of our tours, as long as these are accompanied by hot coffee for early morning gardens and lots of "goodies" to munch on in the gardens.

The first garden on tour Friday was the foothills Mountain View Iris Garden of the Ludi family, where Mount Hood can be seen in the distance on a clear day. However there was no mountain on view through the clouds and early morning mists—just an early blooming Japanese, GALATEA MARX (Marx '61), a nicely ruffled blue with white pencil veining. There were late tall bearded still blooming, but the day really belonged to the spurias in this garden. Looking good were ILA CRAWFORD (Hager '76), a ruffled white with an orange-yellow signal; CINNAMON STICK (Niswonger '83), maroon and gold; COUNTESS ZEPPELIN (Hager '87), a deep mauve with yellow signal; CHOCOLATE FUDGE (Niswonger '88), a deep brown and golden yellow; and COLOR FOCUS (Jenkins '90), with light purple standards, ivory falls with a purple edge and large yellow signal. The Ludis, John and Kay and John's parents, John and Wava, were gracious hosts, as usual, and their hospitality was greatly appreciated.

As the tour buses arrived at Aitken's Salmon Creek Garden, home of Terry and Barbara Aitken, the sun broke through the clouds to take the chill off the morning. Along the path leading to the iris bloom was a wonderful variegated English holly accompanied by roses, dianthus, digitalis, sweet williams and hostas. There were two huge Siberian clumps of CAMBRIDGE (Brummit '71) and REGENCY BUCK (McEwen '84), and lined out medians which had bloomed earlier.

Japanese irises that stood out were PLEASANT SANDMAN (Harris

'98), a huge 6 fall white sanded blue-violet, DIRIGO DEBUTANTE (White '94), a 3 fall white ground with violet sanding and veining. INDIGO DELIGHT (Aitken '93), a 3 fall blue with white halo and wine standards, was lined out culminating in a large clump sprinkled with raindrops from a recent shower. These had held up well in the rain, as had PLEASANT STARBURST (Harris '98), sanded violet with a white ray pattern, 6 falls. RIVULETS OF WINE (Aitken '99), a 6F white with red veins and a red halo showed wonderful form. Also showing off were an elegant white, SESSYU (Kamo R '95), and JOYCOS COLLAR (Hublau R '96), another spectacular white with a yellow signal and bright yellow rays.

There were good representations of McEwen's JAPANESE PINWHEEL, Aitken's INK ON ICE, JEWELLED SEA (Payne '69), KNIGHT IN ARMOR (Marx '59) and many others too numerous to mention. RASPBERRY GLOW (Aitken '92) was a singularly attractive well grown clump. Amid all the modern varieties the timeless charm and simple beauty of ROSE QUEEN (Lilly '15) stood out.

A large bed of Louisianas attested to the diversity and range of iris types in this garden. The 'piece de resistance' of the entire garden was an area of seedlings enclosed by wooden stakes that gave the appearance of large window boxes. About six different cultivar crosses were thus compartmentalized, making an unusual display—sheer genius. Lunch was served in the greenhouse, amid the blooming orchids. Just as the tour buses pulled out of the driveway after a delightful visit, the heavens opened and it poured rain again!

The last stop Friday afternoon was Mt. Pleasant Iris Farm, the home of Chad Harris and Dale Grams, described as "Iris Heaven!". This 75 acre parcel with immaculate beds of irises cut into the hillside had received a total of eight feet of rain earlier in the year! A spring at the top of the hill provides water for the house and any irrigation that might be necessary. Some of the visitors had seen Chad and Dale's small garden in downtown Vancouver on a previous Japanese convention tour, and knew they were going to be in for a real treat.

All the irises (and other plants) were superbly grown and maintained. There were huge clumps of guest irises, Chad's personal collection, and huge beds of first, second and third year seedlings. The seedlings seemed to be blooming earlier than most of the guests and provided a huge display of color. One seedling that drew a lot of attention was #95JB-3, a three fall purple with a bright blue halo. The 3 standards were quite large and looked like they would like to be falls. Is this a class that could

be called "semi double"? #94JA-7 was a ruffled six fall powder blue with white halo and styles.

Chad also had several pink seedlings in his first year seedling area that showed lots of promise. He is particularly interested in good branching and bloom sequence.

Some of the irises which were particularly nice in this garden included: GALATEA MARX, SAPPHIRE STAR, SPRINGTIME SNOW, HATSU KAGAMI, ACK-SCENT PINK, KYOMAI and ISEJO NO HARU. A very tall clump of MIZU-NO-HIKARI really displayed a true light blue color, and MOMOJIDO was very pink with a beautiful blue halo around the signal.

Other plants included fruit trees, a formal vegetable garden near the driveway with tomatoes, potatoes, beans, and flowers too. A perennial bed beside the house had huge clumps of hosta including LAKEPORT BLUE, KROSSA REGAL, GOLDEN TIARA, BLUE CADET and ELLERBROOK. There was also magnificent specimens of Tricertis, tree peonies, ferns, hydrangea, deciduous azaleas, and a 2 foot clump of *I. graminea*. Chad and Dale have taken the natural flow of the stream beside the restored barn and created a pond with Koi, water lilies and *I. laevigata*

The first stop Saturday was at the Wildwood Gardens of Will and Tracy Plotner. The Japanese irises had not reached peak, but a number of the earlier irises were putting on a pretty good show. The most striking of the JIs was OBA, (Shimizu) a 6 fall pink with fine darker sanding. VARIATION IN PINK (McEwen '96) was also showing off, with a minimal amount of lavender in it, which permitted the pink to really show through.

The Plotners garden seemed well on the way to recovery from the devastating flood which washed away their lower garden, and they have plans to reconstruct their hosta garden next year. The Japanese irises were in an area not affected by the flooding and the plantings looked quite nice, with hemerocallis and bearded irises furnishing color in the opposing row.

From Plotners it was a long but worthwhile bus ride to Laurie's Garden (Lorena Reid) in Springfield, Oregon. It is always a pleasure to visit Lorena Reid's garden. Set among the evergreens near the McKenzie River, the Japanese, Sino-Sibes, and other inter-species crosses in good bloom seemed to beckon "Come See" as the buses came to a stop.

Entering the garden, visitors were greeted by a bed of Lorena's award-winning introductions, in addition to GEISHA GOWN (Maddocks) which was a mass of bloom. A row of SING THE BLUES (Reid '97)

gathered a mass of admirers, along with a sister seedling equally unique. (SING THE BLUES was voted Best Japanese iris from within Region seen on tour.)

Among the guest plantings in good bloom were ALPINE MAJESTY (Aitken '97), TIDELINE (Bauer/Coble '95), KOSHUI-NO-ASA (Shimizu '98)—which was voted best out of Region Japanese seen on tour—FRACTAL BLUE (Reid '95) and BLUSHING CRIMSON (Rich '95). An Innerst seedling, 4631, also caught people's attention.

Many Sino-Sibes and other species and seedlings were eye catchers with their unique forms and colorations. Lorena is a pioneer in this area of hybridizing and has introduced many cultivars of note.

Lunch was served under the trees next to the garden so people could continue to appreciate the variety of bloom until it was time to board the buses. Many thanks to Lorena for opening her garden to the Japanese Iris Convention visitors.

In addition to the wonderful guest gardens toured, a highlight of this convention had to be the Friday evening program which featured guest speaker Dr. Currier McEwen who provided the group with some of the history of his work in tetraploid Japanese (and Siberian) irises. In addition we heard from Lee Walker, a new hybridizer from southern Oregon, who is doing a lot of work with the tetraploid Japanese irises as well as what he calls his "Crayola" patterns. 

[Note: Material excerpted with permission from The Review of The Society for Japanese Irises, Fall 1999.]



LAURIE'S GARDEN



REID #95 S 83 (Sino-Siberian)



Photo: John Cheesé, The New Zealand Gardener

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Photo: T. Aitken

SKY & SUN (Spoon '99) TB

"Diamond dusting" as seen on tour at the
National Convention, Dallas, Texas.



GARNET STORM DANCER (Pryor '97) LA



RED VELVET ELVIS (Vaughn '97) LA



PROFESSOR NEIL (Mertzweiler '92) LA

See article by Kevin Vaughn, page 38.

Photo: Plank

Diversity in Louisianas

Growing in the USA

by Kevin Vaughn, Mississippi

A

FTER THE GREAT SPLASH OF LOUISIANA IRIS MADE AT THE recent Dallas AIS Convention and the increase in distribution of newer clones, interest in LA's is at an all-time high. The Society for Louisiana Irises' new book, *Louisiana Iris: Taming of a Native American Wildflower*, is due out this fall from Timber Press, too. Interest should be at a fever pitch with its publication.

Even though there are relatively small numbers of hybridizers working on LA's compared to most other groups, these hybridizers have developed startlingly different approaches to what each considers a beautiful LA iris. Right now we have a broad selection in height (from so-called water sprites to behemoths), forms (round and ruffled, tailored, spider types), and colors and patterns that rival the TB's. We have reds the TB folks would die for, too! LA's also have the distinction that the Australians are amongst the leading hybridizers of this group, with as many or more hybrids coming from their work as from hybridizers in the States.

The whites and yellows have been the most advanced in terms of the round and ruffled look in all of the LA's, and the present crop represents some of the nicest things we have yet seen. Two of my current favorite whites are Dorman Haymon's: the wide and elegantly formed LONGUE VUE, named for the famous botanical garden in New Orleans; and the ultimate in ruffles, PRESIDENT BARNETTE, named for Babs Barnette, a Louisianan who became President of the National Garden Clubs. Both of these irises are seedlings from the wonderful Taylor irises DURAL WHITE BUTTERFLY and HELEN NAISH, which have proven their worth as parents in several color classes. Although Mary Dunn's BREATHE EASY is registered as a yellow with green styles, in this climate it quickly fades to a white, leaving the styles as a cool green island. Form on this one is excellent, with tight ruffles and horizontally flared falls. For width of parts the prize goes to CAJUN WEDDING

(Vaughn, not introduced), a white derived from two yellows, which opens cream and leaves a gold edge to the petals. The name is a tribute to the TB BRIDE'S HALO, which has a similar pattern. John Taylor's OBVIOUS HEIR is the cleanest of the whites I have seen. It sometimes makes blossoms with less than the full six parts, but they are lovely blossoms whatever guise they take.

With yellow LA iris, we have a complete color range from cream to near orange, all with ruffles and splendid form. One of the most striking specimens of the group is Heather Pryor's BUSHFIRE MOON, which has exceptionally wide and ruffled parts in a fairly shrieking shade of orange-gold. Heather has two new releases using BUSHFIRE MOON as a parent that seem to push the color even closer to the area of orange. I anxiously await their bloom in my garden. John Taylor has long been the king of yellow LA iris, with a string of winners such as KOORAWATHA, ALLUVIAL GOLD, and CLASSICAL NOTE. John has taken ruffles in yellow to a new extreme with his SUCCESSFUL BID, where the ruffling takes the form of tightly spaced loops—a very charming flower. An unusual effect is obtained by combining green styles with lemon colored petals. The first of these, Richard Morgan's WILLOW MINT, is a striking flower, relatively small flowered on taller stalks. The new LEMON ZEST (Vaughn R.) has even brighter lemon color with charming ruffles and a shorter plant habit. Both WILLOW MINT and LEMON ZEST owe their green styles to the brown with green styles Morgan iris HEAVENLY GLOW. Yellow amoenas are more rare than other colors but Richard Goula's VERMILLION QUEEN is outstanding. It opens a pale yellow, with the standards fading rapidly to creamy white. Wide, round and ruffled blossoms complete the picture. The prize for vigor in yellows has to be given to the appropriately named LIGHTNING QUICK (Dunn). This is a clear lemon yellow with cupped, slightly upturned blossoms. It is an INSTANT clump.

Blues run the gamut from near whites to dark navy blues. Several soft, ice blues are available. My two favorites are Pat O'Connor's SOUTHDOWNS and Bobo Faggard's ICE ANGEL. These clear colors carry well across the garden and both are vigorous plants; both have the more tailored form. In the mid-blue range my favorites are two older Mary Dunn iris, FLYING HIGH and OVER THERE. Both have impeccable form and good clean colors. Mary's new IMAGE impressed me this season with its lovely lavender blue coloration, impeccable ruffled form, and clean white edge around the petals. A very nice package!

In the darker colored blues, BEALE STREET has the tallest stalk of virtually any LA in my garden, with black signals to accentuate the color. This iris will have as many as 6 bud positions, resulting in a very long season of bloom. In the very dark blues, Heather Pryor's CAPTAIN GATES, named for Dennis Gates, and its sib, DEEP SEA QUEST, have incredible depth of color in the deep navy blues. These iris are from the odd mating of a blue with a yellow. The mind shudders at the bilious colors from crossing bearded iris in those color ranges, but these are both lovely iris.

A few LA's actually combine blue and yellow, although generally as reverse amoenas/blends rather than the EDITH WOLFORD pattern we know from the TB's. The most vigorous of these is Mary Dunn's HUSH MONEY, a pastel affair of light blue standards and creamy yellow falls, accented by an orange signal. It works well as a combination and has excellent branching and other plant habits. Bobo Faggard's GULF MOON GLOW hasn't been given much press but has been the outstanding iris in this color combination the past two seasons. It is much deeper in coloration than HUSH MONEY but seems not to be muddy, as many with this combination can be. It has been crossed with abandon by me, and I look forward with great anticipation to seeing the progeny from this iris in 'or.

In the deeper purple tones to black, Mary Dunn's iris have been outstanding. Her selections of EXTRAORDINAIRE, FAR AND AWAY and WHISTLING DIXIE (from the same seed pod no less) are all outstandingly beautiful iris. All have round and ruffled form and excellent growth habits. Mary's 'BOUT MIDNIGHT remains the standard in nearest to black blossoms in the group. A totally different look is seen in Dorman Haymon's GREAT WHITE HOPE and no, it's NOT white. This iris is IMMENSE, with the dark purple flowers on ramrod stiff stems that extend 50+ inches in height and with the flowers proportionately large. It also seems to be a maniac of a plant. If you know the Louisiana JERI, this is "JERI on steroids". Quite a different look is found in Heather Pryor's GARNET STORM DANCER, with very ruffled blossoms of a very dark purple with maroon highlights. Despite its smaller size it has wonderful garden impact. It is my current favorite of all the dark irises.

Despite the availability of red colors in the LA iris, this color has not been the favorite of LA hybridizers. FRINGED GOLD is my favorite of the bright reds at present. Although a shorter iris, this will not go unnoticed in the landscape as the color fairly shouts at you. On closer

inspection, a thin edge of gold complements the color of the remainder of the blossom. In the middle range of reds, Hager's CAJUN COOKERY is still the champ, a bright red and nearly a self except for the line signal. This is an exceptional plant. In the very dark reds, RED VELVET ELVIS stands alone, in sultry red-black. It is the closest to the red-black TB's such as EDENITE and STUDY IN BLACK introduced by Gordon Plough and is from similar kinds of red X black breeding as the Plough TB's. Mary Dunn's new THANKSGIVING FEST is a nearly complete self. It really is the color of the cranberry jelly from Ocean Spray, too!—Quite different and special. Joe Ghio's OVERNIGHT SUCCESS is more to the purple side and is an enormous full flower from combining the Dunn red-purples with Taylor's rose pink MARGARET LEE.

Pink in LA's is still a bit of a problem in that there isn't the lycopene coloration seen in TB's; instead, a pink effect is obtained from diluted lavenders and rose reds. Taylor's DANCING VOGUE is the closest to pink I have seen in a modern LA iris and is a lovely iris in all other respects as well. Hopefully, DANCING VOGUE will allow us to reach even more clear pinks in the future. Marvin Granger's orchid pinks KAY NELSON and DEIRDRE KAY are still my picks in this color range. Both have clear color, excellent form, and great growth habits. KAY NELSON is a self whereas DEIRDRE KAY has a spray pattern on the falls. Both are worth having in a modern collection. In the lavender range, Mary Dunn's ARROWS is outstanding, a very broadly ruffled clear lavender self. It was my favorite of her '98 introductions.

Brown is an either love-or-hate kind of thing with iris growers. I tend towards the hate end of the spectrum, but there are a couple that impressed me. Richard Morgan's GINGER PUNCH is a bright little brown infused with amber. It has perfect, smaller flowers with a pretty lilt to the blossom and nicely placed on ~30" stalks. Dorman Haymon's LAFAYETTE HONEY has been grown and admired as a seedling for several years, and he was finally coerced into putting it on the market. It is a smooth sort of sandalwood color and a very vigorous and floriferous plant, somewhat like the color of the older Arny hybrid VALERA, but with more brown tones added. Dorman's PRALINE FESTIVAL remains the standard for the class in rich praline-colored blossoms, with ruffled flowers and impeccable branching. It topped the LA iris popularity poll several years ago and may be headed for the DeBaillon Medal.

Bicolors in LA's are still quite a rarity with such classic iris as COLORIFIC and BAYOU MYSTIQUE remaining popular despite their age. Among the newer bicolors CREEOLE RHAPSODY stands

out for its brilliant coloration in palest lavender standards and red-purple falls. It is an odd cross of the classic COLORIFIC and a tetraploid seedling of Joe's. Although it seems to cross readily with diploids, it has the heavier substance one associates with the tetraploids. Heather Pryor's PEACHES IN WINE was the star of my garden in '99, with peach standards and rosy purple falls. Combine this unique color pattern with round and ruffled form and great branching and you have a real winner! Perhaps the smoothest of the bicolors is Mary Dunn's TANTRA, which is a pastel bicolor of light orchid over a muted shade of pastel grape in the falls. A very clean flower and quite nice form.

As for the bicolors, patterns in LA iris have lagged behind the self colored blossoms, although a number of exciting things are coming. ANN HORDERN (Pryor) was a star in the garden this season, with an amber base color and broad margins of rosy lavender on all the parts. John Taylor's MAGNETIC is similar but with a lighter color overall to the blossom. Both are lovely. Heather's LA STUPENDA, presents a different look with flat cartwheel style blossoms with a very pale color and brilliant rosy edges to all the petals. This is a vigorous grower and all in all a very satisfactory flower. Morgan's KELLY'S CHOICE is a smaller iris in amber with rosy edges. It is proving to be a dynamite parent too as Vaughn's BANANAS FOSTER (amber edged cinnamon), ROASTED PECAN (brown edged rosier brown), and RAZOR EDGE (amber edged bright rose) can attest. Clearly we are at the tip of the iceberg as far as edged patterns in LA iris are concerned, and many exciting things are coming in this direction. New seedlings with edges in many colors and combinations will soon be gracing our catalogs.

Halos of lighter color are also popular. Joe Mertzweiller's CAJUN SUNRISE, in red-brown neatly edged gold, is a real winner as a garden iris. Very vigorous and exceedingly well branched, it makes a wonderful statement in the landscape. Pat O'Connor's ANDOUILLE combines bright cherry red color with white petal edges. My favorite of the pinker edged things is CHUCK BEGNAUD (Haymon), a rich lavender rose with clean white rims around all the petals. It has been a favorite of mine since seeing it as a seedling in Dorman's seedling patch. Mertzweiller's BERA has great contrast between the navy blue petals and the clear white edge to the petals. This flower is less flaring than many modern LA's and thus gives a greater landscape effect.

The production of tetraploid LA iris has proved daunting as the percentage of successful takes and germination of the resulting seed is very low. Despite this, there are some beautiful clones out there.

PROFESSOR NEIL is my favorite of the Mertzweiller tets. This is a deep and very clear red with bold gold signals that set off the flower. The prize for vigor in tets goes to Mertzweiller's PROFESSOR FRITCHIE, a tall and very well branched lemon yellow. It makes absolutely beautiful clumps in the garden. Sam Norris' KENTUCKY CAJUN has the first ruffling we've seen in the tets, and an intense blue-purple color that gives a suggestion of its diploid ancestor, the cobalt blue MENTIDA. My favorite of all the tets is Durio's SWAMP MONSTER, a full violet self with a much lighter petal edging, giving a strong halo effect. Although this iris is straight out of the PROFESSOR CLAUDE/PROFESSOR IKE line of breeding, it represents a very new range of colors and patterns in the tet LA's.

Most of what I have described in the sections above are mid to large sized plants with mostly round and ruffled forms. There are several other approaches in both size and form that are gaining acceptance by LA fanciers. Richard Morgan has taken some of the smaller Chowning iris and the *I. brevicaulis* derivative TRAIL OF TEARS to create a whole series of small to medium sized iris. These have the additional advantage of making very tight manageable clumps. Two of the finest small ones are the light blue LAKE OUCHITA and the intense blue LAKE SYLVIA. The color of the latter is like nothing else in irisdom, so brilliant that it literally glows. A totally different color range is found in Morgan's WINDOW SHOPPING, which is the closest I've seen to the bright variegatas so prevalent in the MTB's. It has gold standards with a red midrib and solid red falls, with just the slightest of signals—a very classy little item. Pat O'Connor's new MUD BUG combines *brevicaulis* with the patterned DR. DORMAN to produce an exceptional small blue-purple with a spray pattern. Besides the effort for small ones in this country, Bernard Pryor is on a full-scale effort to produce these types in Australia. A number of these, dubbed by Bernard "water sprites", are now growing in my garden. These have the more extravagant ruffling typical of the Australian iris and should work to extend this form into all colors in the smaller irises. Unlike the American small LA's, Bernard's are derived from the smaller segregants of the *nelsonii* lines, such as BAYOU SHORT STUFF, SPANISH BALLET, and GLADIATOR'S GIFT.

Alternate forms to the round and ruffled are not being ignored either. Marvin Granger was the champion of the double LA iris, and his blue INSTANT REPLAY and cream-white STARLITE STARBRITE are two of the finest of this type. Breeding this type is not easy in that they rarely have pollen, and the doubling is a recessive characteristic so

that outcrosses to singles give all singles. The Taylor iris that double, including red with gold edging GATECRASHER, and the medium lavender-violet SURPRISE OFFER, seem to produce pollen on most blossoms, which may speed the development of double LAs. Farron Campbell's LONE STAR is intriguing not only that it is a cartwheel type but that it derives from the Florida species *I. hexagona*. LONE STAR blooms exceptionally late and has lovely blossoms of a clean lavender blue with signals on all parts. It has great vigor. For years, the old BLACK WIDOW was the only LA available with spidery or open form, but the new ARACHNEPHOBIA (Vaughn) offers the same dimensions as BLACK WIDOW in a bright red flower. Garden visitors seem enamored of this type of flower and, perhaps in our rush to produce the ultimate round and ruffled blossoms, types like this have been lost.

If you haven't seen any of the modern LA iris, you owe it to yourself to try a few of the newer ones just to see the vast improvement that has been made in this group in the past several years. Moreover, there is a form, color, pattern, or size to fill everyone's iris appetite. ☺



Still Following the Orange Brick Road

Louisianas from "Down Under"

by Heather Dryor, Turramurra, NSW, Australia



HERE DO YOU START TO TRY TO DEVELOP A COLOR line that hasn't been explored too much over the last fifty years or so? What will you discover on the journey about yourself and your abilities? What exhilarating and terrifying things will happen to you as you venture further and further into the unknown and uncharted territory ahead? Why do you keep on trying? What do Little Ruby Slippers have to do with it all and why is there no place like home?

All of these questions have confronted me over the last ten years as I have delved into the hybridizing quest at hand—trying to achieve (or at least work towards achieving!) a quality Louisiana iris of the glowing orange coloration similar to, say, TB HINDENBERG (or Garfield the Cat, if you are a Baby Boomer!) “It can’t be done,” people said. Don’t ever say that to a Pryor!

Red and yellow make orange—right? Well, somebody forgot to tell the Louisiana irises that!

The first year of hybridizing comprised experiments with different color combinations and trying to see what might prove useful and what was a brick wall. Some interesting results came from dabbling yellows and sunsets around everywhere. Another line using red-browns also showed some promise. So I was off and away...

Eventually a way forward presented itself and the task commenced in earnest. But how many shades, hues, tones and variations are there on that elusive goal? Peach, apricot and terracotta appeared, but not ever orange.

In 1993 Bernard and I were fortunate enough to have Richard Goula, from Lafayette, LA, visit us during our Louisiana iris bloom season. He charmingly encouraged and enthused us and helped me to focus on that orange-brick road essential: trial and error. In 1993, I crossed some pretty bizarre things (thinking like a bee) and waited...

By the time the 1993 experiments started blooming in 1994, a pattern was starting to emerge from the three previous seasons of different color combinations. Sure, there were some real clunkers in there—but others showed merit.

Soon I registered BUSHFIRE MOON, a self of glowing yellow-orange coloration. In 1997 I registered a sib to BUSHFIRE MOON which was more gingery in its coloration: GINGER FUDGE. This is a nice garden iris and has been used quite extensively over the years. Another sib, WHISPERED PROMISE, is the palest apricot pink and has been a favorite with my friend Janet Hutchinson in some of her hybridizing pursuits.

In 1993, while doing “the bee thing”, I crossed a deep maroon self (now named MONET’S MAGIC) and one of its offspring was a delightful honey colored self with fine golden brown veining all over it. It was registered in 1998 as HONEY JUMBLE. (Incidentally, its sibs are amazingly all hot cerise pink!)

Another cross, now named LOST FOR WORDS, is a pastel apricot self with a claret highlight around the signal and vigorous increase.

It was added to the cause. Two outstanding red tones were also registered: JAZZ HOT a smoky-red self with a fine lemon rim and reverse; and HOT AND SPICY a bright terracotta self with interesting apple green style arms with butter-yellow tips. All very interesting—but where was the orange I had hoped for?

In 1994 I crossed BUSHFIRE MOON with HOT AND SPICY. I was hoping for something that might eventuate in that desired citrus toning. In 1997 a cheeky seedling burst forth into bloom. It was almost Garfield orange, it glowed in the sun, it had red veining and apple green style arms, good bud placement, vigorous, etc., etc. It's name? BOUND FOR GLORY. It was registered in 1999. But it still wasn't orange.

Back during my 1993 "bee thing" I crossed JOIE DE VIVRE with STYLISH SOCIALITE. Both of which had the rose, purple, cyclamen tonings and had the background tones with which I was thinking of experimenting. One seedling bloomed in 1996 ironically in an unusual soft lavender and milk coffee bicolor. It was eventually named TEACUP CHATTER in 1997 as this cultivar is a noisy little critter and is always shouting, "Come over here and look at me!" (Well, it does to me!) Another interesting step in hybridizing, but what about the orange brick road? Perhaps...

Two chance crosses back in 1990, which were the exact opposites of each other, brought forth two reblooming Louisiana iris: MAD ABOUT YOU is a maize yellow ruffled self; and the other, a very ruffled clear yellow with rounded form was named FOR DAD, as it bloomed for the first time in May, 1992, and when my dad saw it he said, "It's just great. I love it. Will you name it for me?" He died unexpectedly that same night and every year since this cultivar has rebloomed in May and in the standard season in mid-October. I am continuing to work on this most interesting tangent of reblooming, but will not be distracted from my original goal.

Have I reached the Emerald City yet? Not yet, but the journey has been great fun and the friendships made along the way have been exceedingly wonderful. I'm not quite ready to click those Little Ruby Slippers and go home—there is too much to explore, experiment with and enjoy yet! 

Louisianas from Australia



JOIE DE VIVRE (Pryor '98)



BUSHFIRE MOON (Pryor '96)



HOT & SPICY (Pryor '98)



STYLISH SOCIALITE (Pryor '98)



Photo: Taylor

BETTER BELIEVE IT (Taylor)

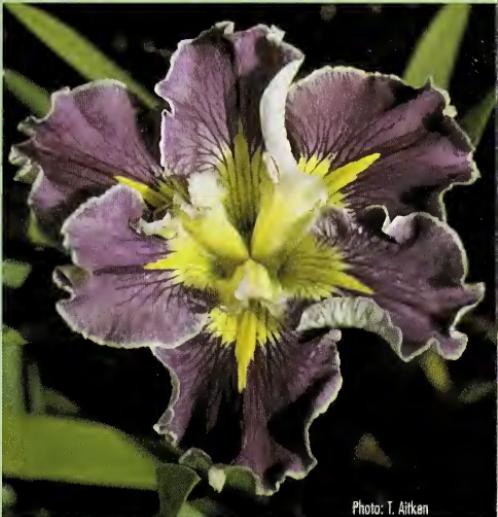


Photo: T. Aitken

LOVE ME DO (Pryor '98)



Photo: Taylor

*Louisianas from
Australia*

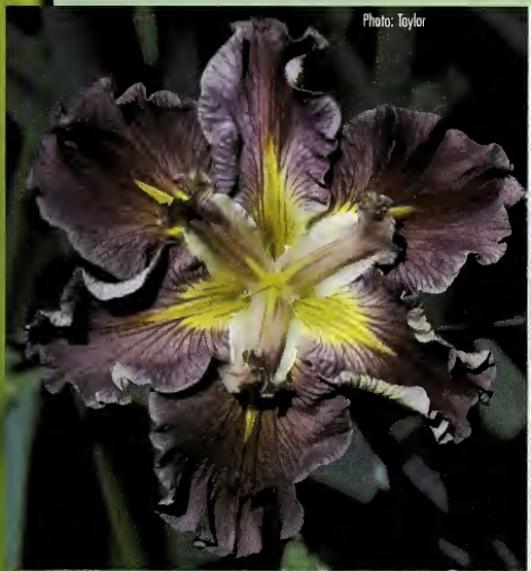


Photo: Taylor

GLADIATOR'S GIFT (Taylor '91)

ITALIAN AFFAIR (Taylor '01)

Forget Think Big!

Think Small!

by Bernard Dryor, Turramurra, NSW, Australia

OT THAT I'M SMALL-MINDED, I JUST FOUND IT FUN TO play with an area of hybridization that met with the requests of various 1990s customers. So many people have smaller gardens or a diminutive pond or a minuscule courtyard needing an iris. Some wish to graduate the plants in their garden so that the shorter specimens are at the front and the taller to the rear and therefore require a Louisiana that is shorter.

The famed English gardener, Penelope Hobhouse, would disagree that one should tier plants in the border garden so that the shorter are at the front. She feels that one should at times be caused to peer over tall specimens so that one looks into or within the garden bed. No matter whose philosophy of gardening one adheres to, there is still a place for the small and the short, whether at the front or inside the garden bed.

We realized that there was a need, but required terms of reference for shorter Louisianas for our catalog. If Bearded are permitted to have terms and height differentiation such as Intermediates, Medians and Dwarf, why can't the Beardless? We needed a name to distinguish our shorter ones that would attract customers' attention and one that would not cause them to associate Louisianas with Bearded by using the same terms.

Various alternatives were tossed around until a dear friend, Robyn Rohrlach (the species specialist in Australia), suggested "Water Sprite". That was it! Different, cute and a touch of fantasy for the light-hearted or the romantic.

We grow our iris in full, ruthless Australian sun, consequently our heights are generally a little shorter than Louisianas grown in part-sun or semi-shade or in cooler climes. However, we have developed some forms that are distinctly shorter, that is, 36" or less, and which have proportionately smaller blooms whilst still retaining quality form, balance, ruffling and substance.

I was very conscious that there were already some charming ones available, such as CLYDE REDMOND and LITTLE MISS

LEIGHLEY, but I wanted to create some Water Sprites that carried the strong petal substance and the fabulous ruffling of the taller ones that we register in Heather's name. One must accept that Water Sprites usually only have 3-4 bud placements due to their diminutive stature whilst the usual 4 or 5 placements are displayed on taller forms.

I think I have created some pretty ones already released: LOVE ME DO (a ruffled, clear cerise pink with a white halo); LITTLE TREASURE (a tiny sweetheart in shades of honey and butter); and ELAINE'S WEDDING (a lovely pink-violet bitone that is lightly ruffled, very vigorous and reliable).

Some recently registered are: PETITE PEACH (a cute peach sherbet self with lime-green style-arms—for 2000 release); LUCY'S LEGACY (soft pink blushed rose standards with falls of deep cherry with a cream halo and buttery style-arms on strong growth—2000 release); GOLDEN FIREWORKS (clear yellow self with glorious ruffling - 2000 release); FINAL FRONTIER (a handsome form with violet standards and rich claret falls with a cream halo—2001 release; LITTLE RUBY SLIPPERS (ruby red self that is intensely ruffled with a yellow starburst signal on all petals—2001); OPAL SUNSET (golden yellow self with rose veining and a pink blush to all of the petal edges with rosy pink style-arms—2001); and TWILIGHT TANGO (a soft rose pink with terracotta veining and edging, a white halo and center blush and buttery style-arms—2001 release).

Our premier Water Sprite release for this year will be HEIRLOOM AMETHYST—it almost has the substance of cardboard, displays beautiful balance and position on the stem, is a glorious shade of soft violet, and ruffling that will knock your eyes out! This should be superb a Show Bench winner, especially since it won Best Spike of Louisiana, Best Spike of Beardless and finally the Queen of Show (the best overall exhibit) in 1997 at the Annual Show of the NSW region of the Iris Society of Australia.

One to come onto the market in 2001 is ALICIA CLARE (named for our niece). It opens the palest lemon and on day 3 develops to a winter white. Not only has it strong substance and superior ruffling with incredibly vigorous increase as well as all of the other requirements of a quality iris, it has unusual, distinctly curved leaves in spring that we have not evidenced on other specimens in our garden.

So when you think of what to put into that last vacant square inch of land you just found behind the last brick near the end of the garage, think small. Think: Water Sprite! 

John Taylor's Hybridizing Program

by Bruce Filardi,

from information supplied by Graeme Grosvenor and John Taylor

JOHN TAYLOR BEGAN HYBRIDIZING LOUISIANA IRISES IN THE mid-1970s. He was already interested in bearded irises, but he was looking for something that would excel in the hot, humid climate of Sydney, Australia. At that time, there was only a very limited range of LA hybrids or species in Australia. Through the help of his brother-in-law, Graeme Grosvenor, John made contact with the great American hybridizer Charles Arny. Charles very generously supplied John with some of his latest hybrids, including the as-yet-unnamed seedling which would later be introduced as CLARA GOULA.

Charles felt that CLARA GOULA had great potential as a parent, so John employed it heavily. He had immediate success with HELEN NAISH and DURAL CHARM in his first batch of seedlings. Both went on to win the Australian Dykes Medal: HELEN NAISH in 1985 and DURAL CHARM in 1987. Additional DM recognition followed for KOORAWATHA in '88, JAZZ BALLET in '90, and DURAL WHITE BUTTERFLY in '93.

In 1992, the ISA (Iris Society of Australia) introduced the ISA Medal, to be awarded in conjunction with the Dykes Medal. The ISA Medal is for the best beardless iris if a bearded wins the Dykes Medal, or vice versa.

John won the first ISA Medal with DURAL WHITE BUTTERFLY in 1992. Subsequent Taylor-bred ISA Medal winners have been LUCY PAYENS ('94), MARGARET LEE ('95), STELLA PELISSOT ('96), HEATHER PRYOR ('97), PAMELA HART ('98), and GOING SOUTH ('99).

John recognized very early that if the popularity of the Louisiana was going to increase, then significant improvement would have to be made in the following deficiencies:

1. lack of buds and poor substance leading to a very short bloom season;
2. large spreading rhizomes giving a sparse appearance in the garden;
3. poor bud placement causing flowers to open too close to the stem or not to open at all;
4. weak stems, often too tall, which would not stand up in normal weather conditions.

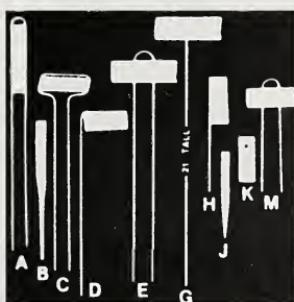
He also saw potential to improve flower form, substance, and range of colors, especially pastels. Above all, John was -- and still is -- looking for good garden subjects: quality flowers on quality spikes that are multi-budded and form compact clumps that handle normal weather conditions.

John believes that his success is based firmly on the foundation given to him by the late Charles Arny. Charles not only gave him the best of advice; he also provided John with the breeding material that started him off in the right direction.

John believes that two of his best irises are the 1999 introduction BETTER BELIEVE IT (DESERT JEWEL X MARGARET LEE), a color gem in yellow, tan, and red; and the 2000 introduction REAL EASY (GLADIATOR'S GIFT X DURAL DREAMTIME), a true amoena in white and yellow with excellent form. He looks forward to the 2001 introduction of ITALIAN AFFAIR which he feels takes LA iris form to a new dimension. ☺

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Design



Photo #1

Corner

See page 55



Photo #2



Photo #3

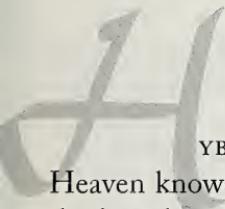


Photo #4

Hybridizing LA's

with some help from the bees

by Janet Hutchinson, Dymble, NSW, Australia



YBRIDIZING PROGRAM? WHAT HYBRIDIZING PROGRAM? Heaven knows I have tried but the results generally seem to show that the bees have got there first! Iris season and orphaned baby flying fox season coincide, and feeding up to four babies five times a day each means the bees have the field to themselves in the early hours. Not that it is such a bad thing. I think they often do a better job than I do, so now I relax, enjoy, and try not to get too embarrassed when I have, all too often, to write "unknown parents" on the registration forms.

Some of my favorites among recent registrations, whether legitimate or from the bees, include DAISY JANE, FLYAWAY BLUES, JUST IMAGINE, SWEET MIRIAM, and PASTICHE.

DAISY JANE (Marsha Sue x Soft Laughter) is a ruffled pale yellow self with green and yellow veining and green style arms. A good grower, this is a relaxed and happy flower, as the name suggests.

FLYAWAY BLUES (Koorawatha x Our Mr. Bailey) is not for the show bench. Its form can be very flyaway but the color—or colors rather—are a mix of violets, both red and blue, overlaid with an odd slate-blue sheen. Its strongly ruffled edges are pale lavender. Sadly its rich blue pollen parent, OUR MR. BAILEY, seems to be dwindling here and FLYAWAY BLUES is its only known offspring.

JUST IMAGINE (White Heaven x either Our Parris or Buxom—those bees again!) is a tall, quiet iris with subtle coloring—the ruffled white falls are lightly veined lilac to give a soft lilac pink flush to the white edged falls. The strong contrast of the deep green signal lines over rich yellow gives this one its character. At its best it is double budded.

Pale pink and white SWEET MIRIAM ((Myra Arny x Andy Dandy) x bees) has been in my garden for quite a few years and has been slow to get started. The dainty white edged falls are a delicate pink when fully open and have a plum edged narrow yellow signal. This one is rather ladylike but produces double buds when pleased with itself.

PASTICHE is a strange one from GLOWLIGHT and those bees again. The color varies depending on the garden and conditions and ranges from raspberry pink with white standards to rose wine with ivory cream standards. The style arms are a rich cream and does it GROW! It is no relation but has been galloping through my garden the way HONEY STAR does. This one was unfazed by strong winds that flattened most of my other iris. It is also producing some double buds.

In the process of registration for 2000 are two whites. One is a heavily substanced white self with rich orange yellow signals on all petals. I hope to name this one in memory of a dear relative, ELIZA de BURGH. This is a DAISY JANE offspring.

The other registration I hope to call COOL CUSTOMER. This one is a rather aloof smooth edged ivory white with green throat and veining. The buds are cool, pale lemon. The seedling just appeared in a crack in the paving and, thank goodness, I gave it a go.

For the future I have hopes of some seedlings whose pod parent was a rather odd yellow, lilac, and deep green seedling from GLOWLIGHT. Hopeless in itself I am trying to get its strange color pattern into decent form and have used John Taylor's RACHEL'S REQUEST and Heather Pryor's CRUSHED ICE. The plants are looking strong and lush but October, 2000 will reveal success or otherwise.

Meanwhile, unsolicited plants, iris and others, keep popping up—a dainty mini flowered *pseudacorus*, a tough white *virginica*, an unusual *dietes* hybrid—there is even a Louisiana growing up through a *zygocactus* in a hanging basket.

Good on you, bees! 



Koala Statue, Begley Garden, Dallas, Texas

Design Corner

Traditional and Creative

by Carolyn Hawkins

RADITIONAL AND CREATIVE DESIGNS HAVE VERY DIFFERENT characteristics. The exhibitor may use imagination with some of the following rules to help define one over the other.

Traditional

Traditional containers of porcelain, china, pottery, metal, etc.

Plant materials are usually typical garden varieties.

Plant materials radiate upward out of the container the way the plant grows from the ground.

Set patterns of specific geometric forms are required such as triangle, crescent, etc.

One focal area or center of interest near rim of container.

No crossed lines.

Depth achieved by overlapping of forms, finishing back of arrangement and placing some forms in profile.

Gradation of color and size of plant material. Large amount of flowers used in mass designs with transitional materials.

Color harmonies are often used such as monochromatic, analogous or complementary colors.

Creative

Containers may be rough or shiny in texture, may have holes or unusual features, are often handmade pottery and original pieces. Can be of sculptural quality.

Exotic and bright flowers and foliage may be used.

Plants may have more than one point of emergence coming from sides, top, upside down, etc.

Set patterns are not required and come instead from the creative idea of the artist.

May have more than one center of interest.

May have crossed lines to capture spaces.

Depth achieved by forms and spaces organized to suggest spatial separation of foreground, middle ground and background. Some forms to the front with some to the back.

Restraint in the use of plant material. No transitional materials needed.

Colors can be bold and dramatic to achieve desired effect. Contrasting advancing with receding colors can create tension.

The preceding table is based on the 1997 *Handbook for Flower Shows*, pages 125 – 128, published by The National Council of State Garden Clubs.

The following designs will help illustrate the traditional vs. creative designs. Photo #1 is a traditional mass design done by Martha Allen of Snellville, GA, from the Designer's Study Club. It showcases the white iris 'Tufted Cloud' with conifer and hosta foliage. Also included are helleborus blooms. The quiet shades of greens and whites makes this a favorite combination for any event. Photo by Michael's Photography.

Photo #2, designed by Kaye Fason, Atlanta, GA, Designer's Study Club is a creative design using the iris, 'Loop The Loop' and helleborus foliage. Driftwood is mounted on the pottery container and the plant materials are inserted into water tubes and attached to the driftwood. Photo by Michael's Photography.

Photos #3 and 4 were done by Carolyn Hawkins, Jonesboro, GA, from the Southwood Garden Club. 'Jesse's Song' iris are featured in this creative design using mahonia beali foliage. The plant material has been placed in a needlepoint cup holder and is behind the wooden sculpture. The plastic "Tangle" has been stretched to extend throughout the design and a black base completes this entry in a recent iris flower show.

Picture No. 4 has a brown background which blends with the shades of the dried sago palm (that has been trimmed) and the peach colored iris. Helleborus foliage adds to this creative design. The plant materials have been placed in a needlepoint holder inside of a neutral colored container.

Any questions please contact Carolyn Hawkins, AIS Judge and NCSGC Plant Society Liaison, 7329 Kendel Court, Jonesboro, GA 30236, and email: crh9999@aol.com. 

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Avis and the Darktops

by Keith Keppel, Oregon



O, THIS IS NOT CHRONICLING THE EXPLOITS OF A ROCK group; rather it is a rambling essay on the reverse bicolor pattern in tall bearded, replete with accurate history and wild conjecture. The stuff that makes breeding programs thrive, at least on paper!

What we are discussing here is the distribution of anthocyanin pigments—those water-soluble sap colors responsible for blue and violet coloration, and the attempt to concentrate the color in the standards and lessen it in the falls. Heady stuff. But let's start with some history and observation...

There is an inclination for a small number of blues, violets, and whites to show deeper coloring in the standards than the falls. How much is due to a higher concentration of standard pigment and how much is possibly due to an overlaying and partially masking outer layer of cells in the falls I make no claim to know—the visual effect simply happens, for whatever cause. The thing is, seedlings were selected and named because of this (at times almost imperceptible) variance in color. In the Graves-Watkins lines of blues and whites, it was ICE CARNIVAL, introduced in 1954 by Fairmont Gardens and described by Mrs. Nesmith as having white falls, light azure blue standards, "...the best reverse blue bicolor I have seen". For its day it was a quite attractive flower, but the bicolor effect was barely noticeable, at least in my hot-sun California garden.

More obvious was Orville Fay's ARCTIC SKIES, introduced in 1960 and described by the hybridizer as having light blue standards and snow white falls. Both these irises were from conventional blue and white breeding, although ARCTIC SKIES had one rather interesting family member: it was a grandchild of Fay's GOOD AND PLENTY, an oddity because the seedling had produced two plants that were identical except for color: a white ("Good", or more likely just referred to as "Albino" in breeding records) and a blue ("Plenty"). The two were sold as a matched pair, "Albino" being the half used almost exclusively.

Then in 1964 came AVIS, which Steve Varner named for his wife and introduced for \$50, quite a princely sum in those days. The description reads "violet standards and white falls tinted light violet". It was from quite different breeding lines than the usual blue-and-white mix. Steve had taken "Albino" and crossed it to an orange seedling from MARY RANDALL and a Hall apricot pink. What he got was light lavender standards (that faded white) and white falls. It was crossed with ENCHANTED PINK, which yielded a cream blend; when the cream blend was crossed with a yellow bitone out of MARY RANDALL and Hall pinks, AVIS made her debut.

In 1967 Bennett Jones crossed AVIS with Hazel Schmelzer's ETERNAL LOVE, a lilac-tinted white. From this cross came SEA VENTURE, pale blue with dramatic deep marine blue welling upward from the base of the standards. Introduced in 1972, it was an instant success.

On a different tack, around 1940 Paul Cook had begun experimenting with the species *Iris imbricata*. Native to the Caucasus Mountains and northern Iran, this median-sized diploid has greenish yellow flowers and some brownish purple haft veining. Cook's main thrust in experimenting with this species was to see if any factors might occur which would clarify the tall bearded blues - the reverse bicolor application was an unexpected happening. As he explained in 1963 personal correspondence:

Imbricata undoubtedly carries an inhibitor gene that suppresses, though incompletely, the anthocyanin of the TB irises. The suppression is usually more complete in the falls of the flower than in the standards, and in the standards less complete in the lower half, this resulting in the reverse bicolor pattern...

"The significant thing here is that once the *imbri* reverse bicolor pattern was obtained in 4n [tetraploid - ed.] blues, it could be transmitted to some seedlings directly and in same intensity.

"...there is some chance for variation (in the *imbri* pattern). Blue standards and white falls; rose standards over white falls; red standards over yellow falls, maybe dark blue standards over pink falls. And who knows what else?"

Cook had used *imbricata* pollen on a diploid "pallida pink" seedling from SUSAN BLISS, WILD ROSE and APHRODITE, getting an indication of the reverse bicolor pattern the first generation. This seedling was crossed to a tetraploid blue self. With no additional infusion of *imbricata* genes, twice more he crossed to tall bearded blues and was rewarded with WIDE WORLD, introduced in the 1954 Longfield catalogue, description reading: "Standards are pale blue, deeper at the base. The broad, flaring falls are white, with white beards..."

Other breeders used WIDE WORLD to carry on the quest. Jeannette Nelson's FRENCH FLAIR and Dr. Charles Branch's BLUE FANTASY were both 1961 introductions and both came first generation from WIDE WORLD crossed with a light blue or lavender. Jim Tucker's SURF RIDER (1972) was a fourth generation WIDE WORLD derivative. Gordon Plough's OCEAN SHORES (1967) was a cross of ARCTIC SKIES X FRENCH FLAIR, and Varner's BATTLE FURY came four generations down from BLUE FANTASY.

Joe Ghio's LITTLE MUCH (1985), notable especially for its size, and the well-formed INCANTATION (1987) both contain multiple doses of SURF RIDER and SEA VENTURE.

Schreiner's EDGE OF WINTER (1983) is the continuation of a line started by crossing BLUE FANTASY with blues. IN REVERSE (Gatty 1993) is from the cross of (EDGE OF WINTER X SWIRLING SEAS) and the next generation (IN REVERSE X HONKY TONK BLUES) gave CROWNED HEADS (Keppel 1997), with even darker violet blue standards and milky blue falls fading near white.

HONKY TONK BLUES (Schreiner 1988) shows somewhat of a reverse-color tendency, as do many of its stablemates, although there is no obvious "reverse" factor in the parentage. Some "unknown" elements do exist in its very complex tree which includes many generations of seedlings, so anything is possible. Regardless, it does seem to be a viable parent for the reverse pattern, and Bill Maryott's excellent QUITE THE REVERSE (1998) can be used to substantiate the claim.

Perhaps it is time to talk a bit about anthocyanin inhibitors—or perhaps "pigment distribution factors" would be a less daunting term. We know of several factors which limit or eradicate the occurrence of cell sap pigments. There is the "dominant white" factor found in the vast majority of white TBs and most yellows, pinks, and oranges. It somehow suppresses anthocyanins over the entire flower (but not 100% suppression, hence the blue cast, especially in bud, of most whites).

There is the *imbricata* factor, which suppresses anthocyanins, but with less suppression in the standards and even less toward the standard base.

The various alleles of the *plicata* locus, plus modifying factors, allow many different patterns and saturation of plicatas. It is possible to get standards so heavily marked as to appear solid, falls with the markings confined to the haft area. In a way these can give a "reverse bicolor" effect, certainly, but they are not what we're talking about here. We also have the *complete* suppression of anthocyanins in plicatas, giving what we refer to as the *glaciata* pattern (or perhaps more accurately, lack of pattern!).

But you cannot have *glaciata* falls (no anthocyanin pigment) without also having *glaciata* standards—and thus no reverse bicolors here.

There is a “recessive white” factor in some blue lines. (If you cross two blues and get a white, it is a recessive white, not the dominant inhibited white.) However, so far there is no reason to think this would help us any in our current endeavor.

And don’t forget the *dominant amoena* (a.k.a. Pregenitor factor or Whole Cloth factor), in which anthocyanins in the standards are partially or almost totally suppressed without suppressing the fall color. Further modification of this factor gives us flowers with some of the fall color also suppressed—even to the point of leaving only a thin marginal band (the Emma Cook effect). In any event, the pigments are heavier in the falls than in the standards, so it’s no go insofar as reverse bicolors are concerned.

The not-common-nowadays *recessive amoena*s come into the same category; the pigments are bottom-loaded and we’re looking for top-loaded.

As a breeder, it is helpful to think of all the possible factors, as not infrequently one factor will have an effect on another. The *dominant white* factor, for instance, can impact the *plicata* factor by producing *plicatas* which can only be spotted in bud or first opening, before the pigments fade completely. You must think in terms of cumulative effect.

This is especially true once you consider flowers with both the water-soluble anthocyanins and the oil-soluble carotenes. The anomaly of getting AVIS, a top-loaded anthocyanin flower, from crossing a cream blend and a yellow bitone, could possibly be explained if the cream blend were in fact a reverse bicolor which would not show *because the dominant white inhibitor was suppressing it*.

Is the reverse anthocyanin bicolor more widespread than we think? When color coding pink irises, the falls tend to key out as a slightly creamier pink overall. Is this due to a variation in the particular carotene pigments present, or could it mean that there are anthocyanin pigments present in the standards, but that the pigments are (almost) suppressed by the *dominant white* factor? A trace of blue makes the pinks appear pinker.

But back to the carotenes. These oil-soluble pigments are responsible for pinks, yellows and oranges. In conjunction with anthocyanins, they give us the impression of reds and browns. The oil- and water-soluble pigments do not actually mix, but trick us by juxtapositioning or overlaying each other. By taking advantage of this trickery, we can create many different reverse bicolors—if we get rid of the *dominant white* factor. And that’s just what the breeders have done.

Gordon Plough was the first to do warm reverses en masse. Back as far as 1962 he had put out KACHINA DOLL, standards a soft pinkish purple, slight smoky effect, with blended apricot buff and pinkish falls. It was derived mainly from tangerine lines, including a goodly dose of MARY RANDALL. Next generation (1968 introduction) was CHIEF MOSES, rosy plum standards, golden brown falls flushed rosy lavender. Both of these did have anthocyanins in the falls to some degree, but the standards were enough darker to show the way. CHIEF MOSES was crossed with OCEAN SHORES with its *imbri* heritage, and SECRET SOCIETY (1973) resulted: Light yellow standards heavily smoked with rose lavender, pale lavender falls blended yellow on hafts and edges—more mysterious than magnificent—but it in turn spawned a host of mostly smoky-pastel reverse bicolors and bitones, including HONEST PLEASURE, COOL RETREAT and LIVING DESERT (all 1979), FIELD DAY, LOGAN'S RUN and SNOW DOVE (1980), SOFT REFRAIN (1981), and CUP OF COCOA (1982).

Actually a great number of reverse-to-a-degree bicolors were appearing, mostly from tangerine breeding. Going back to the discussion of pattern overlay ... if you can imagine a JOYCE TERRY pattern—solid yellow (or pink or orange) standards matching band on white falls—and superimpose it on an anthocyanin self (and leave out the dominant white inhibitor) it is quite easy to get dark standards and paler falls ... with a darker band matching the standards. If done right, the effect can be spectacular. In 1976 the best was Bennett Jones' IRENE NELSON, violet standards with a rosy cast, matching fall rim, and otherwise light violet falls which quickly paled to near-white. Certainly not a reverse anthocyanin bicolor in the strict sense, but it has proven to be a help in giving more depth of color in tangerine reverses.

No discussion of warm-toned darktops would be complete without surveying the output of George Shoop's seedling patch. For about ten generations he intercrossed pinks and their derivatives, developing a complex line which contained a great many tangerine bicolors, including yellow, pink and orange amoenas. Then he threw in one of Bennett Jones' seedlings, an IRENE NELSON child that had AVIS back three generations on the other side. The first generation he got HULA GIRL (1981), with lavender purple standards over peach pink falls. His DUTCH MAGIC (1978), a tangerine-bearded rosy brown of equally involved breeding, was crossed with a HULA GIRL sib to give a seedling with purple standards. This last seedling, when used on HULA GIRL, gave ISLAND GIRL (1985)—purplish brown over orange, and HAWAIIAN

QUEEN (1986) - also purplish brown over orange. The last named, when crossed with a brown seedling involving oranges, DUTCH MAGIC, and more, gave ISLAND DANCER (1991, brown over orange). A HAWAIIAN QUEEN sib, crossed to the child of another sib, gave the border HULA HOOP (1995), with lavender standards, white falls, and yellow fall band. The patterns and combinations increased, and they were bright, for George did love color!

Another Shoop iris should be mentioned, SPRING TIDINGS (1989). Lavender pink with lighter falls, it is the parent of COLLECTOR'S ART (1991), with pinkish purple standards and warm pink falls. It has also been used as a parent by many others, for it throws very pretty flowers. I used my SPRING SHOWER (1994), pale blue and blue white reverse bitone involving BATTLE FURY and tangerine blues, with WISHFUL THINKING (1996), which is out of SPRING TIDINGS, HONKY TONK BLUES, LITTLE MUCH, and BATTLE FURY, getting a number of interesting reverses, including the pastels FOGBOUND (1998) and SUSPICION (1999). Subsequent generations are showing more variation and more color.

The Shoop line is a natural taking-off point for this type of breeding. Joe Ghio's MOOD SWING (1997) has smoky violet pink standards and peachy falls; it is directly out of ISLAND DANCER. Rick Ernst has put out SOLOIST (1994) and AFTER THE DAWN (1995) from a cross with HULA DANCER, and his DAWN OF CHANGE (1993) is from HULA GIRL selfed. FALLEN ANGEL (Duane Meek 1995) is another SPRING TIDINGS child of note for its deep mauve standards, paler fall rim, cool ivory center, and lovely form.

Darktops? There should be a bright-and-darker future for them as the hybridizers put their minds to it. We need to continue intensifying the standard color and deepen the contrast with the falls. We need to broaden the color range. Imaginations run wild! Forty-seven years ago Paul Cook envisioned dark blue standards over pink falls; they're not here yet, but why shouldn't they arrive eventually? Think of the effect caused by multiple factors. Envision IN REVERSE bred to add a tangerine beard; think of a good pink amoena. Superimpose the two patterns. OK, so it may take four or five generations and you need a few hundred thousand seedlings—what are you waiting for? You may never arrive at the proposed destination, but I can guarantee you'll have a lot of interesting and different things to look at along the way. Get busy! ☺

The Iris City

A Bit of History

by Greg & Macey McCullough

IN THE 1930S AND 1940S NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE, WAS ARGUABLY the center of the iris universe. A group of iris growers and hybridizers formed the Nashville Iris Association in 1931 to foster the planting and cultivation of iris, with the goal of Nashville becoming known as "the Iris City of the World". Nashville boasted a number of hybridizers with national and international reputation: Clarence P. Connell, Chancellor James H. Kirkland, T. M. Washington, Thomas A. Williams, Jesse Wills, Mrs. Edward C. Stahlman, Stanley Horn, Dudley Gale, Wentworth Caldwell, Geddes Douglas and Miss Era Emmons. Their efforts succeeded, for by 1948 four Dykes medals were won by Nashvillians. Those winners were DAUNTLESS (Connell in 1929), COPPER LUSTRE (Kirkland in 1934), MARY GEDDES (Stahlman-Washington in 1936) and CHIVALRY (Wills in 1945). Additionally, the American Iris Society held three of its annual conventions in Nashville: 1935, 1941 and 1948.

Each year during the first week of May, Nashville celebrated a week-long Iris Festival, with visitors from around the world. It was a major social event, with parties, garden tours, iris shows and the crowning of an Iris Queen. An article from the *Nashville Tennessean Magazine* in 1937 noted that "...just after blooming time approximately fifteen million [15,000,000!] plants were distributed from the gardens of the experienced iris culturists to those of average homes, totaling 37 trucks at the task of gathering and distributing..."

Due largely to the efforts of the Nashville Iris Association, the Tennessee Legislature named the iris the State Flower in 1933. Although no color or variety was specified, a purple tall bearded is usually depicted. A recently published book, *The Real Dirt: A History of the Vanderbilt Garden Club for Campus Beautification*, notes that Peabody College in Nashville gave each of its graduates a diploma and an iris rhizome at graduation beginning in 1929.

Macey's grandfather, Thomas A. Williams, was among the best known of those early irisarians. He hosted a long-running CBS radio show on gardening and was known as the "Old Dirt Dobber". Mr. Williams wrote a book on gardening and published a catalog of iris under the name The Iris City Garden. He was an avid hybridizer of tall bearded iris until his death in 1949.

During the 1941 AIS meeting, the radio program was broadcast from his garden. WABASH, one of the most popular iris of all time, won the Dykes Medal for 1940. In the Old Dirt Dobber's files is a photograph made during that broadcast with the following written on the back: "Mr. W.J. McKee, Worcester, Mass, President of American Iris Society, presenting Dykes Memorial Medal for the iris WABASH (in picture) to Miss Mary Williamson, Introducer from Bluffton, Ind. On network broadcast direct from the garden house. Paul Oliphant, Announcer, at left. The Little Dirt Dobber [Macey's mother] with headphones connected to N.Y. in the background."

In 1993 we moved approximately 4,000 iris that had been in his gardens to our farm and, with the help of the Historical Iris Preservation Society (HIPS), we have identified a number of them. HIPS has also helped us locate an introduction by Mr. Williams, GLEN ELLEN (Connell-Williams, '39). We continue to search for these other introductions by Mr. Williams and family members:

CEDARWOOD (T.A. Williams '39) Deep coppery red-pink; CHINOOK (T.A. Williams '36) Large waxy white with deep golden beard; IRIS CITY (T.A. Williams '38) Glowing royal purple self; JASPER AGATE (Mrs. T.A. Williams '41) Copper brown-red bicolor; LA FERIA (T.A. Williams '37) Soft French gray and lavender; ROSE QUARTZ (T.A. Williams '36) Beautiful pink with golden sheen; STARWOOD (P.J. Williams '41) GOLDEN HIND x SUNDUST. Dark yellow; TRAUMEREI (T.A. Williams '38) Two tones of light blue lavender, flaring; WAVERLY (T.A. Williams '36) Clear pure blue iris, flaring form. HM '37.

Although iris can be seen in almost every yard in Middle Tennessee, Nashville's glory days as The Iris City are in the past. All of the famous hybridizers are now gone and today only one commercial iris garden exists. But who knows what could grow from that one garden? Perhaps one day Nashville will host an AIS convention again! ☺

Flight Lines

from the International Robin

by Barbara Zigge, New Mexico

Libby Cross, Covington, VA: Not everyone has my problems with getting IMMORTALITY to grow... I expect the start of IMMORTALITY that Lars Hopfner, Denmark, got which bloomed the first season had already developed its bloom parts for the next season before he got it. This happens sometimes when it is moved late in the season, and Lars did say he got it in the autumn.

Tina Cabral, Chico, CA: I put in my first Spurias two years ago. I had followed the advice of a local club member who grows them, to cut off water in the summer and start up again at the beginning of fall. By doing this, one fourth of them died, (out of the dozen I had). This past summer I watered them regularly and await spring to tell me if that works better for them.

Marjorie Richards, Donaldson, IN: I've made a note of COLORADO GOLD (Lyons '82) being very fragrant. I shall keep an eye out for it in the iris catalogs.

David Traylor, Petersburg, VA: My IMMORTALITY did flower (last) fall but I am certain that was from previous growth. Judging from what I see at this time, it may be a slow starter for me. Its growth is somewhat slower than the (other) irises in the same bed.

So far the few Arilbreds I have planted have survived. This summer will probably give me the final answer. I am not as yet brave enough to try pure Arils but they will probably be in my future.

Margaret V. Criddle, Great Britain: *I. unguicularis* are in full flower and have been sending up flowers for 3 months now.

When I had many TBs I quite often had flower spikes in the Autumn, but they never managed to flower; a frost always took them while still in bud; very disheartening.

My experience with Spurias has been that they have to have both sun and moisture all year round. I have grown a lot from seed. Under my neighbour's fence they have grown extremely well, but they never see the sun and that has stopped them flowering. It never dries out there. I have

moved them to the other side of the garden and hope it will be moist enough for them.

Tohru Araki, Japan: Last year ... was a miserable year. I have lost lots of TBs due to soft rot, even until the end of the year. I kept transplanting all through winter (which we can do because the coldest temperature is about 30° F, with very few frosts. I do not expect good growth for flowering this year because of the late transplanting.

I planted three Spurias last year for trial in my garden. They are doing very well. Are they immune from soft rot? TBs planted with them got soft rot and died. I am looking forward to seeing their first flowers. Also I am waiting for germination of some Spurias which I got from your seed circulation. I tried PCIs once but they could not survive in my garden. LAs are OK and increasing. JIs and Sibs are also OK, but did not grow well due to summer time heat.

Lars Hopfner, Denmark: It is early spring here now and the first bulbs are in flower. *I.juno nicolai*, several Reticulatas, including *i.kolpakowskiana* (three bulbs this year; one last year—a good increaser). It seems I have lost *i.hyrcana*. It is always the first one to flower, but I have not seen it this year.

We are just getting a new snow cover. It looks very nice with the Reticulatas' blue coloring in it.

Lucy Burton, S. Hamilton, MA: After convention our bloom was past peak, but we still had some nice color on a few TBs and MTBs.

Our Regiculatas started blooming April 1, even before the daffodils appeared.

In conversation with Ken Fisher at convention he said he has never had MTBs rebloom. His one reblooming TB, CORN HARVEST, when it rebloomed "attracted every cucumber beetle in the state of Arkansas"

Tina Cabral, Chico, CA: I currently have KEVIN'S THEME (Kerr) and LESLIE DAWN (Pinegar) reblooming for me. These are "first timers" with 4 stalks of KEVIN'S THEM opening in two different locations.

...have self pods including 3 large ones on CIRCUS STRIPES which should be interest if they germinate.

Since I watered my Spurias last summer they seem to be going strong—have just finished blooming. They need to be dug and separated, but I've heard an "ax" is needed for the job. I'm not looking forward to this.

Tohru Araki, Japan: An article in the *AIS Bulletin*, January '99, talked about three rows of TBs, one perfectly weeded, another mulched with wood chips and the last row unweeded. Last year I mulched the TB rows thickly with chuff (hull of rice grain), to prevent weeds growing. Now I am watching to see how weeds can or cannot put up new sprouts and how the TBs will grow—rather poorly, as the article said? But why will the wood chip mulch disturb TB rhizome growth? Mulch should prevent the weeds from sprouting. But the TB foliage is above the mulch where it received sun, but still the growth was poor. Why? Any ways, perhaps weeding is a MUST—no easy way without sweat.

Lucy Burton, S. Hamilton, MA: I think wood chips collect water and hold it so the new TB increases are in too damp a soil. We use pine needles for a winter mulch, but remove it for the iris season. There seems to be nothing better than plain physical removal of weeds.

Our guest bed is ready for the Median Odyssey-2001... spread clear plastic on it to help eliminate weeds. That gives it a start; although the weed seeds are plotting to move into it from other places once the plastic is removed. ☺

Special offer on 1998 AIS Bulletin Back Issues

\$5.00	10 Bulletins	\$8.00	40 Bulletins
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Minutes of the Meeting of the AIS Board of Directors

Dallas, Texas
April 15–16, 2000

The Spring meeting of the Board of Directors of the American Iris Society was called to order by President Clarence Mahan at 1:05 P.M. on April 15, 2000. Mahan thanked Region 17 for hosting this convention and for providing such pleasant accommodations.

Present during the various sessions were: **Officers:** President Mahan, Immediate Past President Niswonger, 1st Vice-President and Editor Aitken, 2nd Vice-President J. Plank, Secretary Marley, Treasurer Hudson; **Administrative Officers:** Membership Secretary Harlow, Recording Secretary A. Lowe, Registrar Keppel; **Directors:** Campbell, Epperson, B. Figge, Gossett, Guest, M. Lowe, Jean Morris, Perkins, N. Pocklington, Pope, Probst; **RVP Representative:** C. Meyer (11); **Committee Chairs:** J. Jones, Harder, Mazur, McNames, Mullin, Rice-Waters, G. Snyder, M. Snyder, Waddick; **RVPs:** Weixlmann (2), Lewonski (3), Mull (4), Bowen (5) Boyson (7), Meyer (11), Ludi (13), Loberg (14), Jim Morris (18), Evers (20), Lingenfelter (21), Carson (22), B. Figge (23); **Past President:** Stahly; **Section Presidents:** Abrego, C. Brown, B. Kasperek, C. Lankow, Lineberger, D. Willott; **Foundation President** R. Hollingworth; **Legal Advisor** R. Plank; **Parliamentarian:** R. Figge; **TBIS President** P. Williams; **Guests:** Gallagher (1); Keup, B. & G. Kontak (2); M. Brown, Castillo, G. & S. Grigg, W. Marley, B. Mull, Warner (4); Honkanen (5); A. Willott (6); Crick (7); B. Aitken, G. Lankow, Reid, Silverberg (13); Joanne Jones, Maryott, Messick, G. Hall, Trio (14); Larsen, R. Plank (15); Ives, Mark (16); D. & V. Brown, Howard (17); J. Keisling, Murrain (18); Jansen, Reuter (21); Holman, Lack, McMartin (22); Bergamo, Gordon (23).

Mahan requested Board approval of the re-appointment of Rosalie Figge as AIS Parliamentarian. Approval was unanimous.

Minutes: The following additions and corrections were made to the minutes of the 1999 Fall meeting as published in AIS *Bulletin* #316:

1. Attendees, pg. 106, line 11: name misspelled; should read “Meyer”
2. Surplus Bulletins Report, pg. 108, line 13: should read “1997–1998 issues”
3. **Standing Committee Appointments, pg. 115: add: Membership Contest, Linda Miller and Youth, Jean Morris.** *[apologies to both of these ladies]*

J. Plank moved that the minutes be approved as modified. Niswonger seconded. Carried.

Reports of Officers

President:

- Mahan referred to the handout of membership initiatives developed during the Fall meeting and urged that they be studied and utilized as feasible. He invited anyone to write an article using this information.
- Following the resignation of Director Bobbie Shepherd, the Board has approved appointments of Nancy Pocklington to serve out the remainder of Shepherd's term and of Barbara Figge to replace Shepherd as RVP Counselor.
- The Board has approved purchase of 32 copies of Rodionenko's book *The Genus Iris L.* Mahan recommended that the 15 copies already sold be priced at \$30. Niswonger moved approval; Pope seconded. Carried.

Mahan further recommended that two (2) copies of the book be sent to the AIS Library and that the remainder be sold at the Silent Auction with a minimum bid of \$25 each. Marley moved approval; J. Morris seconded. Carried.

- Mahan requested that the Board consider purchase of an additional 200 copies of the Rodionenko book for resale to AIS members through the Storefront at \$30 each. **Following discussion, Pope moved that no more than a total of 200 copies of *The Genus Iris L.* be reordered for sale in the Storefront, to be ordered in the smallest increments possible at the discretion of the President.** J. Plank seconded. Carried.
- A letter was received from Dr. Rodionenko requesting a new grant from AIS. Since the last grant was made by the Foundation, this matter has been referred to the Foundation for their consideration.
- Membership Secretary Harlow has submitted her resignation to be effective not later than October. With the increased availability of e-mail, some restructuring of procedures within this office may be forthcoming.

First Vice President: No report.

Second Vice President: J. Plank noted that the first AIS Gold Medal, which was awarded to John Wister, was in the possession of the AIS Secretary and she suggested that this should be held by the incumbent President. Pope moved approval; Hudson seconded. Carried.

Mahan voiced concern over the possible dangers of leaving the Boehm Porcelain Iris with each incumbent president and requested approval to send it to the AIS Library for permanent display. J. Plank moved approval; Gossett seconded. Carried.

Mahan also expressed reservations over having the Wister Gold Medal in the possession of one individual. Pope moved that the Wister Gold Medal be sent to the AIS Library for display and safekeeping. Hudson seconded. Carried.

Plank presented two Gold Medals from Germany for inspection. These are also held by the Secretary, and she moved that they be sent to the AIS Library for display. Epperson seconded. Carried.

There are a number of 50th Anniversary Bronze Medals in the Storefront. Plank urged members to purchase these medals, noting that they can be made into attractive jewelry.

Secretary: Marley reported that the Dykes medals had been sent to the AIS Secretary as requested and she handed them to Awards Chairman Campbell.

She thanked Keith McNames for copying and sending all the minutes from the original Secretary's book.

She noted that there were still problems with clarity in billing for reimbursement and emphasized the need to send receipts when requesting reimbursement.

Donations Secretary: Plank distributed copies of information which she has sent to regions and affiliates. This comprehensive handout lists in detail those active funds to which donations may be made, along with suggested forms which can be used in making various types of contributions to AIS. Donations of all types, including items for the Silent Auction, go through the office of the Donations Secretary.

Plank explained the need to be listed in the *Bulletin* masthead and moved that the Donations Secretary be made a Standing Committee. M. Lowe seconded. Carried

Treasurer: Hudson made several corrections to the semi-annual report and noted that there was presently a healthy positive balance on hand.

He requested clarification regarding when we might begin using the publication fund. At this time, drawing on the fund would result in a negative balance. There was no support for the negative balance concept and publications will continue be funded as they are at present (out of the general fund) until such time as the \$50,000 cap is reached, at which time the publication fund can support the cost of future projects.

Hudson stated that we need to consider getting bids on all expenditures over a certain dollar amount, especially in the area of printing costs. He recommended that, because of his recent experience with printers, Terry Aitken be appointed to coordinate all major printing expenditures and that his approval be required prior to entering into any contracts. Discussion revealed that it would be difficult to implement this and further action was postponed indefinitely.

The need for setting an operating reserve, investigating sales tax policies in the areas where we do business and budgeting for future expenses such as salaries were presented and briefly discussed. Hudson noted the possibility of taking a tax deduction for expenses incurred in attending AIS Board meetings.

Editor: Aitken distributed copies of the April *Bulletin* which will be mailed during the coming week, noting that he has stayed within budget while producing more color at a lesser cost. Discussion of a new editor was deferred until later in the meeting.

Advertising Manager: No report received from Peters, but adequate advertising revenue was reported by Aitken and Hudson.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REPORTS

Membership: Harlow reported a total membership of 7140 with 1155 new members joining in 1999 and 1158 deletions in March 2000 for non-renewal. Leading regions are 14, 4, 18, and 17. She commented that she wondered if Middle America and older members on fixed incomes could afford the proposed increase in dues. She then announced that Rosalie Figge [age 90+] had just taken out a Life Membership in AIS.

Regarding acceptance of her resignation, Harlow expressed thanks to those with whom she has worked for the past decade. Following accolades from various members of the Board, Epperson moved a rising vote of thanks to Harlow.

Mahan stated that Bonnie Nichols had volunteered to assume the position and requested approval of her appointment as Membership Secretary. Pope moved approval; Epperson seconded. Carried.

Harlow reminded the Board that adjustments in the *ITJ* must be made to reflect this appointment. Mahan noted that the Board may need to authorize purchase of additional equipment for Nichols prior to the November meeting.

Registrar: Keppel reported that the 1999 *Registrations and Introductions* booklet was printed at a considerable savings over last year and was sent to the Storefront in January.

October has been set as a tentative deadline for having the 1999 *Check List* ready for the printer. All entries are completed, and there has been considerable editing for consistency. In some cases, additional or corrected parental information has been added. Keppel presented estimates of printing costs and asked the Board to determine the number to be printed. Pocklington moved that 3000 copies of the hard cover 1999 *Check List* be printed. Epperson seconded. Carried.

Keppel stated that, in the past, foreign associate registrars have received a courtesy copy of the yearly *R&I* booklet. He requested authorization to receive 20 copies of the

1999 *Check List*, to be given to those foreign societies which sponsor an associate registrar; two copies to the AIS Library; the remainder for office use. J. Plank moved approval; Epperson seconded. Carried.

Keppel noted that foreign originations continue to cause problems with certification for AIS awards. The Board reaffirmed the policy that irises introduced anywhere in the world are eligible for AIS awards *provided* (1) the introducer is a citizen of the United States or Canada or (2) the irises are introduced *exclusively in North America during the first shipping season*.

Keppel asked for direction regarding the Sèvres Vase from France which is presently in his possession. Mahan instructed him to take the vase to the AIS Library. Approval by consensus.

Storefront Sales: N. Pocklington noted that current income is running behind last year, and that expense totals remain within budget guidelines.

The iMac approved at the Fall meeting arrived in December and e-mail is beginning to be used. Increased use of e-mail is expected following the April *Bulletin* announcement that members can use e-mail when ordering from the Storefront. She thanked John Jones for his many hours of telephone tutoring.

Surplus Bulletins: Gossett reported 2460 *Bulletins* mailed since November 1999 and noted that the \$10 charge for 60 *Bulletins* does not cover postage for mailings to Canada. The Board agreed that AIS would continue to subsidize postage for Canadian orders of *Bulletins*.

He requested permission to offer 960 *Bulletins* at the upcoming Affiliates Meeting without charge. Niswonger moved approval; Meyer seconded. Carried.

Ombudsman: Begley was not present. Mahan noted that the Ombudsman mechanism has not been used as most people prefer to go directly to the person(s) involved. Hudson moved that the position of Ombudsman be eliminated; M. Lowe seconded. Carried. Mahan expressed appreciation to Begley for his efforts as Ombudsman.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Operations Manual Draft: Epperson gave an update, stating that he will soon contact all officers and committee heads to request a narrative job description of every task involved with time lines as indicated. The draft copy should be forthcoming within a year.

Bulletin Indexing: Aitken reported that the bulk of the work will be done by September and that the information will be assembled during next winter. Some of this information can already be accessed via the website. Mahan expressed regret that the index does not include iris names and descriptions.

BIC Revision: Epperson reported that 15,000 copies of the revised *Basic Iris Culture* have been printed and are now available for sale in the AIS Storefront. Epperson was complimented for his excellent and timely efforts in completing this project.

RVP Handbook Revision: Probst reported no draft document as yet. It was recommended that RVP Representative Meyer and RVP Counselor B. Figge be involved. Probst will report at the Fall meeting.

501(c)3 Status: Epperson asked R. Plank to provide an update. Plank stated that the letters requesting tax exempt status for those regions and sections who have completed the required paperwork will be submitted to the IRS at the end of May. Application can only be made once a year.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Affiliates: Chairman Pope distributed a list of 169 affiliates and moved that the list be approved. Epperson seconded. Carried. She stated that she was revising the affiliate application form to simplify the process.

She introduced Bob Keup who distributed a proposal containing the criteria, rationale for each category of participation and a draft of the worksheet for the AIS Affiliate Project. He stated that the overall purposes of this project are to recognize and strengthen those affiliates who are doing a good job and to encourage all affiliates to do better. The project is basically a membership initiative containing guidelines for making a good club.

Following discussion, Epperson moved that the AIS Affiliate Project be adopted in principle, and that it be accomplished for the calendar years 2001 and 2002, at which time it will be further evaluated. The adoption in principle will become *de facto* at the Fall Board meeting following submission of a report containing a projected application form. Morris seconded. Carried. It was noted that this project is not in conflict with the AIS Membership Contest.

Awards: Regarding retention of old Judges' Ballots, Chairman Campbell moved that ballots should be kept only until the next ballot is sent out. Plank seconded. Carried.

Campbell noted the lack of Caparne-Welch medals available to present to the last two winners. DIS President Kasperek outlined the difficulties experienced and stated that the medals should be forthcoming by fall. Campbell emphasized the need to have the section medals on hand in timely fashion.

Since the mechanism for providing Keeper Trophies to winners of the Cook, President's and Walther cups is already in place, Campbell stated that he will order them as needed. Campbell moved that he be authorized to purchase presentation boxes for the Wister and Dykes Medals. Marley seconded. Carried.

Campbell asked for clarification as to what constitutes an Inter-species (SPEC-X) and a Species (SPEC) variety. Keppel stated that it was up to the hybridizer to select the category when the iris is registered.

The *Judges' Handbook* states: 'Irises of each classification remain on the ballot for a period of three (3) years. However a variety remains eligible until such time as it might receive the HM award.' Campbell requested a policy for getting an iris back on the ballot. Following discussion and consultation, Campbell moved approval of the following:

"Any iris that has been properly registered and introduced, regardless of classification or age, that has not won an HM may be placed on the HM Award ballot for an additional period of three (3) years. Eligibility is subject to certification by the AIS Registrar. A combined total of ten (10) accredited judges who are eligible to vote the official ballot and who are from at least two (2) regions of the AIS, must request in writing that a variety be placed back on the HM ballot. The written requests will be sent to the Awards Chairman, and all must be received within the same calendar year to be considered valid. The iris will then be placed on the following year's ballot and remain eligible for a period of three (3) years. An iris may be placed on the HM ballot no more than once by this method."

M. Lowe seconded. Carried. This policy will appear in the next revision of the *Judges' Handbook*.

The question of whether or not to have write-in votes on the Judges' Ballot was discussed and deferred to the Fall Board meeting.

Lewonski (RVP 3) requested an update on the matter of showing slides of the award winners during the Awards banquet. During discussion it became apparent that there are too many difficulties to make this feasible.

Calendars: Chairman Rice-Waters reported the calendars for 2001 have been shipped. She noted that a binding error had occurred in putting some of the calendars together but that the pages can easily be rearranged correctly.

Convention Liaison: Chairman Gossett distributed an updated list of the sites of future National and Fall meetings. He was commended for meeting the needs expressed by guests at the Fall Board meeting in such a satisfactory manner and for successfully implementing the trial 'extra day' policy.

Electronic Services: Chairman Jones stated that a new ISP (Mallorn Computing Inc.) that specializes in providing services for horticultural groups has been located. The cost of this is above the approved original funding level. After detailing set-up costs, he recommended that the Board approve \$485 for first year expenses and \$385 per year thereafter. Lowe moved approval; Aitken seconded. Carried.

Jones announced that the *1989 Check List*, scanned by Mike Lowe and corrected by a team of volunteer 'proofers' as well as the name list of all registered irises from Kathy Wells are now in an online searchable database in a test mode. He named and thanked those who had done the proofing. The motion to eliminate an annual subscription fee was made and defeated. Individuals wishing to subscribe should contact Jones via e-mail for details and procedure.

With reference to establishment of an electronic Storefront deferred from the Fall meeting, Jones reported that he purchased an iMac as directed, configured it with memory and software and shipped it to Nancy Pocklington in December. Following biweekly phone/computer-link training, Storefront is ready to go online. Jones recommended that he be authorized to set up an Electronic Storefront using the Amazon.com site and that he, N. Pocklington and J. Hudson be authorized to price items specifically for the Storefront. Hudson moved approval; Plank seconded. Carried.

Jones stated that the *irisauction.com* website contract is pending and the site will probably be up within 2 months.

Jones is currently working with Registrar Keppel to develop an electronic registration form.

Exhibitions: Chairman Epperson reviewed the activities concerning exhibitions, noting that approximately half of the free *ITJ* brochures have already been requested and distributed. Five new Show Award Certificates are now available and suggested revisions in the Show Report form will be considered. Mahan asked for a standing ovation to Epperson for the many projects he has taken on and completed.

Foundation Liaison: Mazur distributed the Foundation financial report, noting the final settlement of the Helen McCaughey Trust from whence came a sizable contribution to the Foundation. Mazur noted a need for worthwhile projects to fund in the cause of educating the public on the genus iris. Niswonger mentioned two projects in the works, one in Mongolia and one in the Ukraine, that might be suitable for Foundation assistance.

Mazur noted that there has been no report received by the Foundation from the current Rodionenko grant for study of new Siberian species. Niswonger stated that this report had been sent to Jim Waddick.

The Evelyn Jones Library Fund, administered by the Foundation, has supplied all the Library office equipage as well as funding the binding of one complete set of AIS *Bulletins*.

Mazur commented on the present gap in communication between AIS and the Foundation. It was explained that the Foundation was originally created as a non-profit organization. At the time AIS could not qualify as a tax exempt entity, so to maintain the tax exempt status, the two organizations were deliberately kept apart. Hence the *Bulletin* has charged the Foundation for all material published. Since this is no longer necessary, Epperson moved that AIS rescind the policy of charging the Foundation for any information placed in the *Bulletin*. J. Plank seconded. Carried.

It was noted that Dr. Rodionenko is the only one currently studying the evolution of irises. Mahan asked the Foundation to consider funding a new study as requested by Dr. Rodionenko as quickly as possible so that AIS could act if the Foundation did not wish to support this project.

Historian: Harder distributed a list of the materials that he has ready to send to the AIS Library, and indicated that he would try to get remaining library materials in his possession to the Library this summer. He has, in progress, the following projects: (1) compilation of a listing of those who have won AIS medals and awards with a biographical sketch of each and (2) compilation of a list of those who have served AIS in any official capacity.

Honorary Awards: Chairman Niswonger passed around the Warburton Medal and, noting the details of the artwork, asked that AIS express special thanks to Lynn Markham and Donna Aldrich for their attention and efforts in "getting Bee just right." Dr. Rodionenko's representative will accept the Warburton Medal for him. Mahan expressed thanks to Niswonger and those regions and individuals who assisted with the funding of this new medal.

Niswonger showed the AIS Gold Medal, which will be accepted by Dr. Currier McEwen's representative and then displayed the Hybridizers Medal.

Insurance: Regarding concerns over the current amount of liability coverage (\$2,000,000), Chairman M. Snyder requested Board permission to investigate the possibility of obtaining insurance based on the total number of members in each club, i.e. a policy that will cover all members whether they belong to AIS or not. Permission was granted by consensus, with a report due at the Fall meeting. Snyder also asked for an inventory of all equipment owned by AIS that should be insured.

Judges' Handbook Revision: Chairman Epperson reported that 2100 copies of the revisions to the *Handbook for Judges and Show Officials*, 6th Edition, 1998, are ready for distribution as directed at the Fall meeting. An announcement to this effect appears in the April *Bulletin*. He distributed copies of the revisions to members of the Board and standing committee chairs.

Judges and Judges' Training: Chairman Mullin reported that, following input from the RVPs, the yearly requirement for the Activity Report will remain unchanged. The request for telephone numbers of judges to be published in the *Bulletin* was deemed not feasible.

However, telephone numbers can be placed on the activity report as recommended by the RVPs. Overall opinion was that each region should have this information on hand and that regional newsletters, which often go out of region, would be helpful in making this information more readily available.

Library: Chairman McNames requested approval of the donation of the listed excess library items for the Silent Auction. Epperson moved approval; Campbell seconded. Carried.

Mahan presented an iris book received from South Africa which he is donating to the AIS Library.

Following discussion of a need to know what material the AIS Library holds, M. Lowe moved that the Board approve putting the AIS Library Index in searchable form on the Mallorn database site. Marley seconded. Carried. Written system protocols and policies will be developed by the Electronic Communications Committee and presented at the Fall meeting.

Regarding the revised contract with the City of Silverton, the two points to be worked out are the longevity of the contract and an acceptable termination policy. It was agreed that the Library Committee, headed by McNames, will work out an alternative proposal for the final contract which must be approved by the Board prior to October.

Membership Contest: No report.

Policy: Chairman M. Lowe distributed policies enacted at the Fall 1999 meeting. He suggested that it would be wise, when interim votes are taken, if each person voting would address his/her reply to all Board members with e-mail rather than just to the President. This eliminates any implication of secret/closed voting. Mahan praised Lowe for his on-going assistance in matters of policy.

Public Relations: Chairman Guest gave an update on several projects in progress and she distributed current regional newsletter information. An online newsletter exchange program is in the works.

Complimentary copies of the January *Bulletin*, in lieu of subscriptions, were sent to 6 Garden Magazines as a PR tool. Work is being done to develop an online list of scheduled iris speakers and Judges' Training to enable people who are nearby to consider attending. Epperson will update his present list of speakers and available J.T. programs.

Rare Iris Study Center: Chairman Waddick provided a brief overview of activities of the past year. He is working closely with Dr. Rodionenko and has plans to meet with Prof. Zhao in July. He also hopes to meet with Prof. He Shan-an regarding a proposal to develop a Native Chinese Iris Species Display at the Nanjing Botanical Garden.

Waddick emphasized the need to develop a population of endangered irises and lamented the lack of commercial sources for species and rare irises. Some rare irises will be available in the Silent Auction at this convention. It was suggested that some of the "search and rescue success stories" be published in the *Bulletin*.

Registrations: Registrations for 2000 are proceeding normally. As of April 1, 325 varieties are recorded as introduced; 310 varieties registered and 339 new names reserved or used.

Robins: Report given by Secretary who reported that new Historic and Reblooming robins are now in flight. Chairman Cross expressed a desire to start a robin for beginning/new hybridizers and requested help from experienced hybridizers who would be willing to fly with the robin and explain the basics.

RVP Counselor: RVP Representative Meyer reported that the RVPs felt strongly that an increase in dues should also provide an increase in services provided, and they felt that, while a small increase in single annual dues might be acceptable, the triennial dues should not be increased. The RVPs recommended placing a judge's telephone number on the Activity report.

The following officers were elected:

Chairman of the Board of Counselors: Peter Weixlmann (2)

Secretary: Randall Bowen (5)

AIS Board Representative: Fran Evers (20)

Nominating Committee: Barbara Figge (23) and JaNiece Mull (4)

Request for increased availability of all handouts at AIS Board meetings was again made.

Scientific: Chairman Fulton's report contained an up-to-date summary of Dr. McEwen's plant disease project which dealt mainly with scorch.

During discussion regarding the investigation of developing a resource for chromosome counts, it was again noted that Charles Jenkins will do this if AIS will furnish the appropriate microscope. Mahan appointed an *ad hoc* committee consisting of John Jones (Chairman), Bob Hollingworth, Jim Waddick and Sandy Ives to investigate availability of equipment needed and costs involved in activating this project, with a report due at the Fall meeting. Committee was approved by consensus. Waddick was asked to write an appropriate job description for this position for the *Bulletin*.

Scholarship: The Secretary presented Dr. Taylor's proposal for awarding the current scholarship grant. The Committee recommended that the Board approve awarding the 2000-2001 Scholarship for Graduate Study to Peter Van Zandt for his proposed research on the Louisiana irises of Marsh Island, LA. Approved.

Section Liaison: Chairman Probst reported that much of the meeting discussion centered around 501(c)3. He presented a current list of scheduled Section and Cooperating Society Mini-Conventions. The list of Section officers as distributed was not current. Probst will mail an updated list to all concerned. Carol Warner was elected to the AIS Nominating Committee.

Silent Auction: Chairman Perkins gave a progress report on the current auction, noting that, although the name has been reserved, one of the 2000 introductions donated has not been registered. Keith McNames offered to grow this cultivar for a future auction.

Perkins reminded the Board that this was her last year of chairing this auction. C. Meyer volunteered to take over the position. Her appointment was approved by consensus.

Slides: The Secretary distributed Chairman Nichols report which stated that 46 sets of slides have been ordered since November 1999, and that there has been an increase in requests for slides from garden groups other than iris clubs. Mahan reported that he had purchased 24 used slide trays which were shipped to Nichols and have been received. If not needed, they will be donated to the Silent Auction.

Mahan stated that Nichols has asked to be relieved of his position prior to October and he appointed William Mull to be the new Slide Chairman. Marley moved approval; Aitken seconded. Carried.

The question of producing a video of a convention as a sale item was discussed and

the need for local professionals to do this was emphasized. Lewonski will investigate this as a possibility for the 2001 convention in Region 3.

Symposium: G. Snyder distributed a listing of all irises on the ballot which will be voted in 2000. The list contains an explanation of rules for inclusion on the Symposium and lists those irises being dropped. Full instructions for voting are included and Snyder noted that there would be no write-in votes.

Snyder asked for approval to allow for optional voting of the Symposium electronically with proper verification of eligibility by the RVP involved. Aitken moved approval; Plank seconded. Carried.

The feasibility of having counters in foreign countries to expedite receipt of results via international e-mail was discussed. Snyder will investigate and report in the fall. He will also address the possibility of reinstating the Iris Hall of Fame.

A question pertaining to the lack of irises other than Tall Bearded on the Symposium ballot was raised by Dennis Kramb via e-mail. Snyder will discuss this at the Fall Board meeting.

Webmaster: No report. T. Aitken reported that webmaster Scott Aitken would be resigning by the end of the year. John Jones declined to accept the position but stated that he has a volunteer for the job and will announce the name at the Fall Board meeting.

Youth: Chairman Jean Morris announced the three winners of the Clarke Cosgrove Memorial Award for Youth Achievement: 1st Stephanie Rust (18), 2nd Monica Combrink (22) and 3rd Marc Loberg (14).

There are currently 371 youth members. CIPs are in Regions 14, 18, and 22. Morris thanked specific members and their sponsoring affiliates for setting up these classroom projects.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Dave Silverberg, Vice-President of HIPS, stated the desirability of having the *Golden Anniversary Issue* of the AIS *Bulletin* available to those who wish to add it to their publication collections. He asked that the Board grant permission for HIPS to reprint this document and offer it for sale through the HIPS Publication Sales office. J. Plank moved approval; Meyer seconded. Carried.
- Mahan had previously stated that a raise in AIS dues should be considered. Following spirited discussion during which many points of view were expressed, he requested approval to appoint an *ad hoc* Dues and Services committee who will thoroughly study all aspects of the question and bring a proposal to the Fall Board meeting at which time the Board will vote on the matter. Epperson moved approval; Pope seconded. Carried. Appointed were: Board members Guest (Chairman), Epperson, Pope, J. Plank; RVPs Weizlmann and Evers. Aitken noted that salaries and purchase of equipment must be considered during these deliberations.
- Keppel requested that the Board formulate a policy involving Internet sales and the official introduction process. Mahan asked Jones, Keppel and M. Lowe to draft an appropriate policy and report back during this meeting. The following policy was presented:
“Effective January 1, 2001, a registered iris that is offered for sale to the public on an Internet webpage shall be considered as introduced *provided* that the introducer

sends a printed copy of the webpage to the AIS Registrar." M. Lowe moved approval; Plank seconded. Carried.

It was emphasized that this policy should be strictly interpreted and rigidly applied.

- Regarding a petition to the Postal Service to use irises on the next make-up stamp, it was felt that there were too many obstacles for feasibility at this time.
- A request concerning an AIS member group rate for trekkers to the New Zealand International Iris Symposium in the fall was deemed outside of AIS sphere of control and arrangements should be made privately.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Region 2 Reorganization: RVP Weixlmann reported that the new regional bylaws had been approved by the membership and that the new structure of Region 2 has already seen the formation of new affiliates.

Currently the bylaws of the Empire State Iris Society do not conform to those of AIS, and these will have to be revised if ESIS wishes to remain an AIS affiliate. At the recommendation of the N.Y. State Attorney General, the ESIS will retain the present treasury.

Weixlmann and Guest were commended for their efforts in dealing with this problem.

Format change: A suggested change in the format used when names of iris in text appear in the *Bulletin*, submitted by Gail Barnhill was discussed. Consensus was that the present system is acceptable.

Revision of the Convention Handbook: Gossett stated that work is in progress and he and Mullin will have a tentative draft to present at the Fall meeting.

Iris Chronicles Project: Chairman Marley stated that the committee was in agreement that this project was worthwhile. Mahan presented some suggestions as to what information should be included in each chronicle.

Marley requested Board approval to continue the Chronicles Project and to authorize the AIS President to select a Project Director. Plank moved approval; Morris seconded. Carried.

Search for Bulletin Editor: Plank distributed copies of a resume from Bruce Filardi who is the only applicant for the job. Editor Aitken cited Filardi's contributions as part of the current editing team and he endorsed Filardi for the job. He stated that Filardi will be asking for some level of compensation.

During discussion it was noted that, other than Aitken, few knew or had met Filardi. Epperson stated that, since the job was not properly advertised in the *Bulletin*, he felt that no decision could be made at this time. He moved that a full job description, including qualifications and necessary time frames, be published in the next *Bulletin*, accompanied by an invitation to submit resumes and portfolios to Jeanne Plank by October 15, 2000. M. Lowe seconded. Carried. This will allow time for the committee to select a candidate for presentation to the Board at the Fall meeting. Filardi will be asked to serve as Guest Editor for the next two *Bulletins* while the search is in progress. Aitken will supervise as needed.

TBIS request for Cooperating Society status: Principals in the discussion were AIS President Mahan, TBIS President Phil Williams, Immediate Past AIS President Niswonger and the Directors of both groups. Aitken moved that AIS invite TBIS to

become a section. J. Morris seconded. Following a review of the entire situation by both sides, Aitken withdrew his motion.

Section Liaison Probst pointed out that with the recent change in AIS bylaws, there is no real difference between a Section and a Cooperating Society, other than that the Cooperating Society is not compelled to abide by AIS rules and customs.

One primary concern of AIS involves possible scheduling of mini-conventions by TBIS in competition with AIS national and regional meetings. The current TBIS trek to Oregon in late May was cited as an example of this concern.

The second concern involves a conflict with regard to the member voting policy: TBIS-one vote per household membership; AIS-one member, one vote.

The discussion was lengthy with both sides standing their ground. It was noted that TBIS members have not been asked to vote their preference on the question of Cooperating Society vs. Section status.

Williams asked that the Board take an immediate vote regarding Cooperating Society status for the TBIS. Epperson moved that the request for Cooperating Society be denied. Morris seconded. Carried.

Aitken moved that AIS invite the TBIS to become a section of AIS. Mahan amended the motion to include anything necessary to comply with AIS bylaws, with the understanding that there be a provision to preclude a separate spring meeting for Tall Bearded irises. Aitken agreed to the amendment. Morris seconded. Carried.

Williams asked for a written list of AIS requirements that TBIS will need to fulfill in order to become a section. Mahan agreed to provide this list. Williams stated that this matter will be on the agenda at the TBIS meeting in Oregon.

Report of the Nominating Committee

Chairman Hudson presented the following candidates for nomination to fill the 4 director positions which expire in 2000: Roy Epperson, Jean Morris, Paul Gossett, Lorena Reid, John Jones, Maurine Mark, Peter Weixlmann, Carryl Meyer. Epperson nominated Bonnie Nichols from the floor.

Plank moved that the nominations be closed. M. Lowe seconded. Carried.
The Board adjourned to Executive session.

Mahan reconvened the meeting and announced that Epperson, Morris, Gossett and Nichols were nominated to fill the 4 Director positions.

Mahan appointed Aitken and Jean Morris as Board members to the 2001 AIS Nominating Committee. Epperson moved approval, Niswonger seconded. Carried.

The 2001 Nominating Committee is composed of: RVPs B. Figge and J. Mull; Section Representative Warner and Board members Aitken and Jean Morris.

An invitation to the Fall Board meeting in Lincoln, Nebraska has been extended by Co-chairmen Henry and Opal Wulf for the weekend of November 3-5. Information about hotel accommodations, surface transportation and airline schedules was distributed.

Thanks and congratulations were extended to Bonnie Nichols, her committee, and the Iris Society of Dallas for their attention to detail which has made for a well organized Board meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 P.M. on April 16, 2000.

Anne S. Lowe
Recording Secretary

Electronic World of Irises

www.irisregister.com

by John Jones, California

THE ELECTRONIC SERVICES COMMITTEE OF THE AIS HAS embarked on a project to provide electronic access to registration and checklist data. The long term goal of this project is to have the complete registration data for every iris registered by the AIS in a database on the Internet and to have it searchable with a standard search engine.

We have electronically scanned the 1989 Checklist and a group of volunteers have proof read and corrected the errors that were found. This data is available on the irisregister website (<http://www.irisregister.com>) at the Checklist Data Button. *[Editor's note: you can also get to this website from the AIS Website links page: www.irises.org]*

The data is divided into three segments:

- 1.) Name, Hybridizer and Year;
- 2.) Seedling number, Type, Height, Season
- 3.) Parentage, Introduction, and other information

Each of these sections can be selected to be included or excluded from a particular search.

Additionally, we have a list of every iris name ever registered by the AIS through and including the 1999 R&I. This data is available at the Name Data button on the irisregister home page. This data is also divided into three segments;

- 1.) Name;
- 2.) Source (year of the document containing introduction or registration information);
- 3.) Award and Miscellaneous data;

Each of these sections can be selected to be included or excluded from a particular search. Hybridizers Note: This is the database to search when you are looking for a name for that new fire engine red flower you just discovered in your seedling patch. However, this database does not include any name that has been reserved by the AIS Registrar, or any name registered since the publication cutoff date for the 1999 R&I. We

are trying to design a process that will keep this database more current, but for now at least you can check against the almost 50,000 registered names.

Currently access to the databases is free, but when we get additional checklists uploaded to the database, there will be a \$10.00 per year charge. We hope to have the 1979 Checklist finished in several months, and the 1999 Checklist by the end of the year. If you are interested in helping, email jijones@is.netcom.com.

In order to use the checklist you will need a user ID and a password. Follow the instructions at the database website: <http://www.irisregister.com>

E W O I
ELECTRONIC WORLD OF IRISES



iris-talk@egroups.com

Irises On the Internet

Wilbert Gustav Sindt

1911 - 1999

Wilbert Gustav "Gus" Sindt died December 25, 1999, at the age of 88. He was born in Pipestone County, Minnesota. In 1934 he graduated with a degree in chemistry from Macalester College and lettered in track. Gus met his wife Charlotte at Macalester, and Char and Gus were happily married for 62 years. After graduation, Gus was a member of the Minnesota State Guard during WWII. Following the war he began working for 3M Co. as a chemist, working there until his retirement in 1976.

Growing up on a farm, Gus developed his keen knowledge and love of growing things.

His daughter Claire Ann said "Iris was the first flower he was interested in, I remember that from my youth." Gus served as president of his local iris society in 1952-1953. He was a member of the Peony and Iris Society, and was instrumental in organizing the Twin City Iris Society, which was later changed to the Iris Society of Minnesota. He served on many committees over the years, actively promoting the shows and served as Show Coordinator for years. He wrote articles for the Region newsletter, gave numerous programs, served as auctioneer, and regularly taught Judging sessions. Gus and Char were given the Minnesota Service Award. Gus was appointed an AIS Judge Emeritus more than ten years ago.

Gus was particularly interested in dwarf irises and grew his son David's hybrids in quantity at his Afton Garden. He remained active in the Dwarf Iris Society and served as its president. He even tried his hand at hybridizing, and registered three versicolors.

Gus was active in AIS nationally, serving as Regional Vice President of Region 8 from 1971 - 1973. He had also served as Slide Chairman. He and Char regularly attended the AIS national conventions.

In addition to his iris activities Gus served as President of the Minnesota State Horticulture Society, was a Judges Instructor with

MSHS and assisted with compiling their Judges Handbook. This knowledge earned him a judge's seat at the Minnesota State Fair from 1962 - 1999. He also had served as a Director of the American Peony Society and as President of the State Gladiolus Society.

Gus is preceded in death by his son, David Baily Sindt, two brothers and a sister. He is survived by his wife Charlotte, daughter Claire Ann Weber and two grandsons.

Gus was recognized nationally for his extensive plant knowledge and the Iris Society of Minnesota thought of him as their mentor since he served as their senior advisor for so many years. A pastor at his church had said, "Gus has a face that just smiles at you all the time, even in times of adversity." We are truly going to miss Gus and his great smiles. ☙

In Memoriam:

Ray Cantwell (Oklahoma)

Harold A. Van Deenst (Tennessee)

Mrs. Edward C. Harrigan (Kentucky)

Lucille Kitchell (Washington)

Mrs. Richard (Meredith) Sparling (Maryland)

American Iris Society Foundation

Contributions to the American Iris Society Foundation are used for the research of the genus iris, administration of scholarships and the support of the AIS Library through the Evelyn Jones Memorial Library Fund. This research includes the taxonomy as well as the cause of diseases and their cures. Over the years, grants have been issued to the top researchers and educational institutions throughout the United States as well as internationally.

October 1, 1999 - April 1, 2000

Contributions in memory of:

Carlos Arroyo (CA)	Leo T. Clark Foothill Area Iris Society (CA)
Sierra Foothills Iris Society (CA)	
Leo Barnard (CA)	Ben Hager (CA)
Leo T. Clark Foothill Area Iris Society (CA)	Gus & Charlotte Sint (MN)
Riley E. Barnett (IN)	Kitty Loberg (CA)
Louisville Area Iris Society (IN)	Barbara Innerst (PA)
Richard C. Butler (AR)	Virginia Messick (CA)
Bob Brooks (CA)	B. A. Jones (TX)
O. D. & Marie Niswonger (MO)	Iris Society of Dallas (TX)
Wini Conklin (CA)	Ray D. Lyons (CO)
Orange County Iris & Daylily Club (CA)	Catherine Long Gates (CO)
Pauline Cooley (OR)	Long's Gardens (CO)
Ted M. Lee (SC)	Dennis Gates (CO)
Eugene "Tray" Drouillard (ONT)	Emma Jean Whatley McRae (GA)
The Iris Club of Southeast Michigan	The Peach State Depression Glass Club (GA)
Gladys Ensminger (NE)	Wilbert G. "Gus" Sint (MN)
Roger P. Mazur (NE)	Iris Society of Minnesota
Eugene & Bonnie Kalkwarf (NE)	Thomas Martin &
Mrs. Daniel Fuller (CT)	Jeanne Ullevig (MN)
The Connecticut Iris Society	Bruce Stewart (KY)
Dorothy Graf (CA)	Louisville Area Iris Society (IN)
	John Wood (SC)
	Summerville Iris Society (SC)

How can you make a contribution or memorial gift to the American Iris Society Foundation?

Checks should be made payable to the American Iris Society Foundation. When sending a memorial gift, please include the name and address of the next-of-kin, so an acknowledgement card may be sent. Your tax-deductible donations should be sent to:

The American Iris Society Foundation
 Roger P. Mazur Sec./Treas.
 5824 Erskine #7
 Omaha, NE 68104-4159

Rent Slide Sets from the American Iris Society

AIS Slide Sets available for 1999:

The Newest in Irises: 1993–1998 Introductions. Mostly TBs, but contains other types.

Recent Award Winners: HM and AM Winners, 1992–1997

The Popularity Poll: Temporarily unavailable.

Types other than Tall Bearded: Bearded and beardless, arranged in blooming sequence.

Reliables: Mostly past award winners of various types—especially suited for newer iris societies and garden clubs.

1994 Portland Iris Convention

1995 York Iris Convention

Iris Trivia: This is a small set of slides and questions that can be used for a fun and informative meeting. (Use of all questions and slides takes at least one hour.)

To Order: Requests for slides should be made well in advance of requested date, preferably six to eight weeks. If optional, specify alternate sets and/or dates. Clearly *print* name and mailing address to whom slides are to be sent. Rental fee is \$10.00 per set, payable to AIS. Only one set allowed for any request date. Slide sets are to be returned next day after viewing by *Priority Mail*. Note: Affiliates are entitled to one free TB set per year. Send check with request to:

Bill Mull	Phone: (757) 858-5521
7112 Fox's Lair Ct	Email: <AISslides@aol.com>
Norfolk, VA 23518-4435	

Section Slides Available:

The various Sections of AIS also have slide sets available for rent. These feature irises of each respective group. Rental fee is \$5.00 per set, unless noted otherwise. Requests for these slide sets should be submitted as follows:

Arils and Arilbreds: Order from Scott Jordan, 3500 Avenida Charada NW, Albuquerque, NM 87107. Rental fee \$7.50. Check to Aril Society International.

Dwarf: Dorothy Willott, 26231 Shaker Blvd., Beachwood, OH 44122-7111.

Check to Dwarf Iris Society. Rental fee \$7.50.

Historic Iris Preservation Society (HIPS): Contact Joan Cooper, 212 West Country Rd. C, St. Paul, MN 55113. Rental fee \$7.50. Check to HIPS.

Japanese: Order from John Coble, 9823 E. Michigan Ave., Galesburg, MI 49053. Check to Japanese Iris Society.

Louisiana: Order from Ann Justice, 202 Briargate Cr, Lafayette LA 70503.

Check to Society for Louisiana Irises. Rental fee is \$10.00.

Medians: Contact Terry Aitken, 608 NW 119th St, Vancouver WA 98685. \$10 check to MIS.

Rebloomers: Contact Olive Rice-Waters, 1914 Napa Ave, Berkley, CA 94707.

Check to Reblooming Iris Society. Rental fee is \$7.50.

Siberians: Order from Robert Hollingworth, 124 Sherwood Rd E, Williamston, MI 48895. Check to Society for Siberian Irises.

Species: Several sets available. Order from Helga Andrews, 11 Maple Ave, Sudbury MA 01776. Check to SIGNA.

Spurias: To order, contact Patricia Brooks, 102 Jefferson Lane, Ladson, SC 29456. Check to Spuria Iris Society.

AIS Storefront

Sale Items & Publications

\$27.00 *The World of Irises*

Highly recommended! 32 pages of full color. Edited by Warburton and Hamblen, 34 contributors and authors including international authorities. Published in 1978 and most authoritative book on all phases of irises. Scientific and popular. 6" x 9" hard bound cloth cover, 526 pages.

Quantity Discounts: 10% off for 10

20% off for 100

15.00 *Handbook for Judges and Show Officials*

New release! Sixth Edition ©1998.

**\$1.50 ea., or
25 for \$15.00 *Basic Iris Culture*.** Booklets. Great information
for new iris growers. Ideal for clubs or shows.

\$4.50 *AIS Bulletins: Back Issues* (not all issues available)

\$14.00 ea. *Check Lists*: 1939, 1949, 1959, 1969, & 1979
Reprint. Soft cover.

\$17.00 *Check List, 1989*
Hard cover. Ten-year compilation of registrations 1980 - 1989.

\$7.00 ea. *Registrations and Introductions*:
1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, and 1999.

\$2.50 *Bronze 50th Anniversary Medals*
The AIS 50th Anniversary medal in antiqued bronze. Suitable for
pendants, show prizes, and special awards.

View Before You Buy!

The official AIS Website now has photos of several of the
Storefront sales items, so you can see what they look like.

Go to: www.irises.org

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Bulletin

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Official design in blue and green on silver background.

2001 Iris Calendar:

\$6.00 each, or \$33.00 for packs of 10

1999 & 2000 Iris Calendar - While They Last

\$3.00 each, or \$13.00 for packs of 10

\$4.00, 1 pack

\$10.00, 3 packs

\$25.00, 10 packs

Iris Post Cards (16 per pack)

AIS can now accept VISA & Mastercard (sorry, no other charge cards) for Storefront orders (minimum order: \$10.00). When charging your order, please include card type and number, expiration date, phone number, and signature.

Prices include postage and handling. Make checks payable to The American Iris Society, or include charge card information. Send order to:

Irv & Nancy Pocklington	Phone: (217) 854-2184
609 Harrington St	Fax: (217) 854-7629
Carlinville, IL 62626-1230	email: aisstorefront@accunet.net

The Gardeners Iris Book

By William Shear

176 pages, 163 color photos.

In this book William Sear, a 40-year veteran of iris growing, shares his expertise in choosing, planting, growing and propagating exquisite irises of many types. Cultural advice for the most desirable and adaptable iris types allows the gardener to choose the irises best suited to his region of the country.

Single copy: \$17.00, postpaid

Affiliates & Sections, 10 or more copies: \$14.00 each, postpaid

AIS Bulletin Ad Rates

"Without advertising, a terrible thing happens... nothing!"

We are now using an all-electronic setup with our new printer. As a result, we can no longer simply paste ads on paper. All ads submitted on paper will be scanned. If you have graphic images or logs as part of your ad, it would be best if you send them on a disk, or email them directly to Scott Aitken at <scott@scottpix.com> (payment must still be made through advertising editor).

Shopping Section

found in the back of each *Bulletin*. Placement is roughly alphabetical.

\$42.00	$1\frac{15}{16}$ inch	Rate is for 4 issues. All ads are $2\frac{1}{8}$ inch wide.
\$58.00	$1\frac{15}{16}$ inch	
\$73.00	$2\frac{15}{16}$ inch	

Display Advertising (Rate is for single issue)

Black & White:

\$35.00	1 inch	$1 \times 4\frac{1}{4}$
\$46.00	$\frac{1}{4}$ page	$1\frac{7}{8} \times 4\frac{3}{8}$ (wide), or $3\frac{3}{4} \times 2\frac{1}{8}$ (tall)
\$58.00	$\frac{1}{3}$ page	$2\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{3}{8}$ (wide), or $7\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$ (tall)
\$81.00	$\frac{1}{2}$ page	$3\frac{3}{4} \times 4\frac{3}{8}$ (wide), or $7\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{8}$ (tall)
\$104.00	$\frac{2}{3}$ page	$5 \times 4\frac{3}{8}$
\$115.00	$\frac{3}{4}$ page	$5\frac{5}{8} \times 4\frac{3}{8}$
\$138.00	Full page	$7\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{3}{8}$

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\$150.00	$\frac{1}{3}$ page mini ad (if space available)
\$276.00	Full page, interior page.
\$250.00	Full page, interior page, 4 consecutive issue discount.
\$400.00	Full page, inside back cover.
\$425.00	Full page, inside front cover.
\$500.00	Full page, outside back cover.

Terms

Payment is due with ad copy. Ads due: July 15 (Oct. issue), October 15 (Jan. issue), January 15 (Apr. issue), April 15 (Jul. issue). Send ad and payment (payable to AIS) to:

Harold Peters,
2048 Hickok Rd,
El Dorado Hills, CA 95762

(916) 933-3804
fax (916) 933-0878
email: <Harold@directcon.net>

Bulletin of the AIS Shopping Section

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Shopping Section

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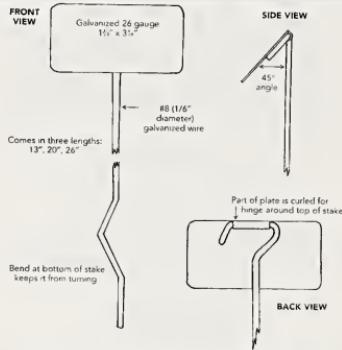
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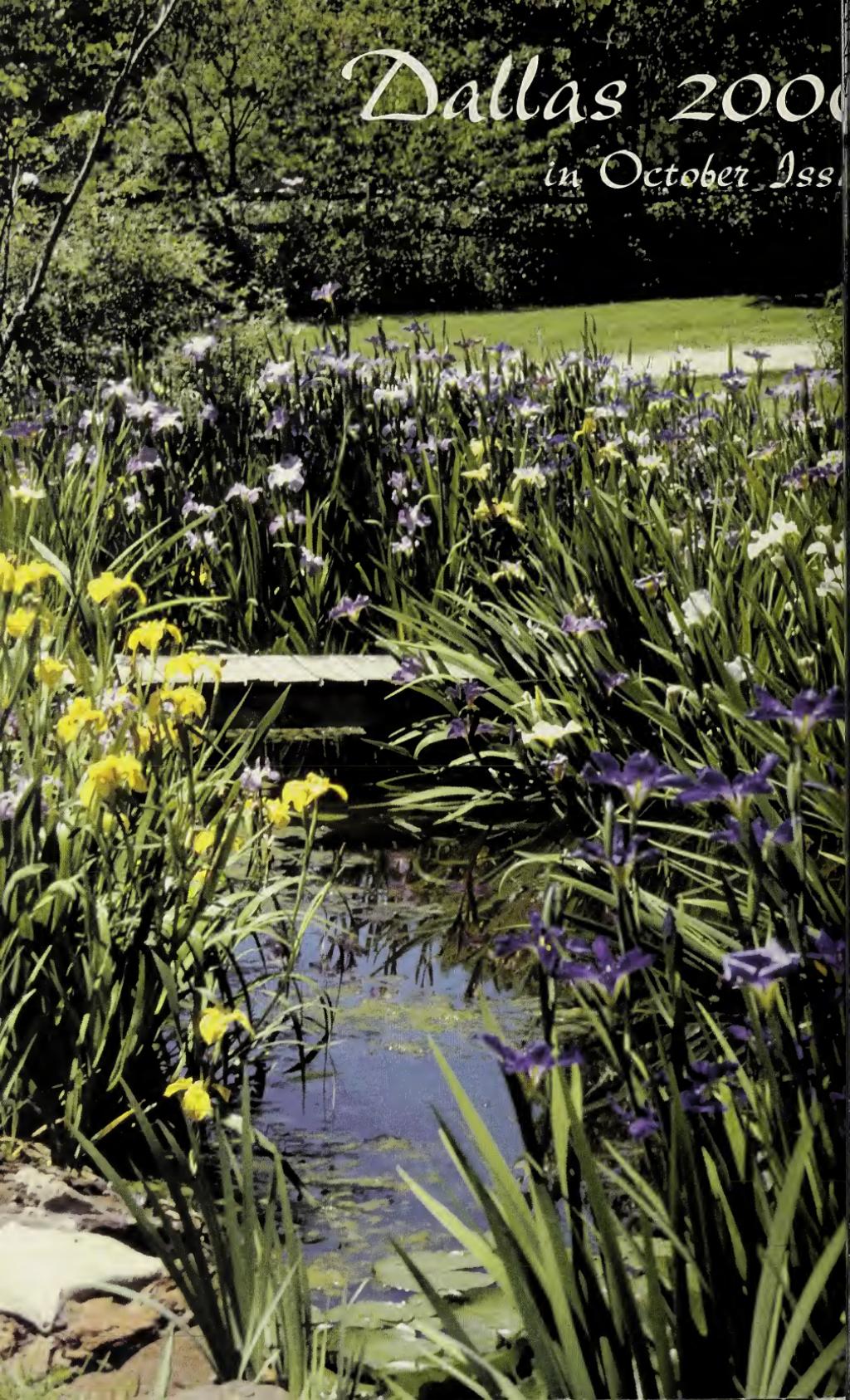
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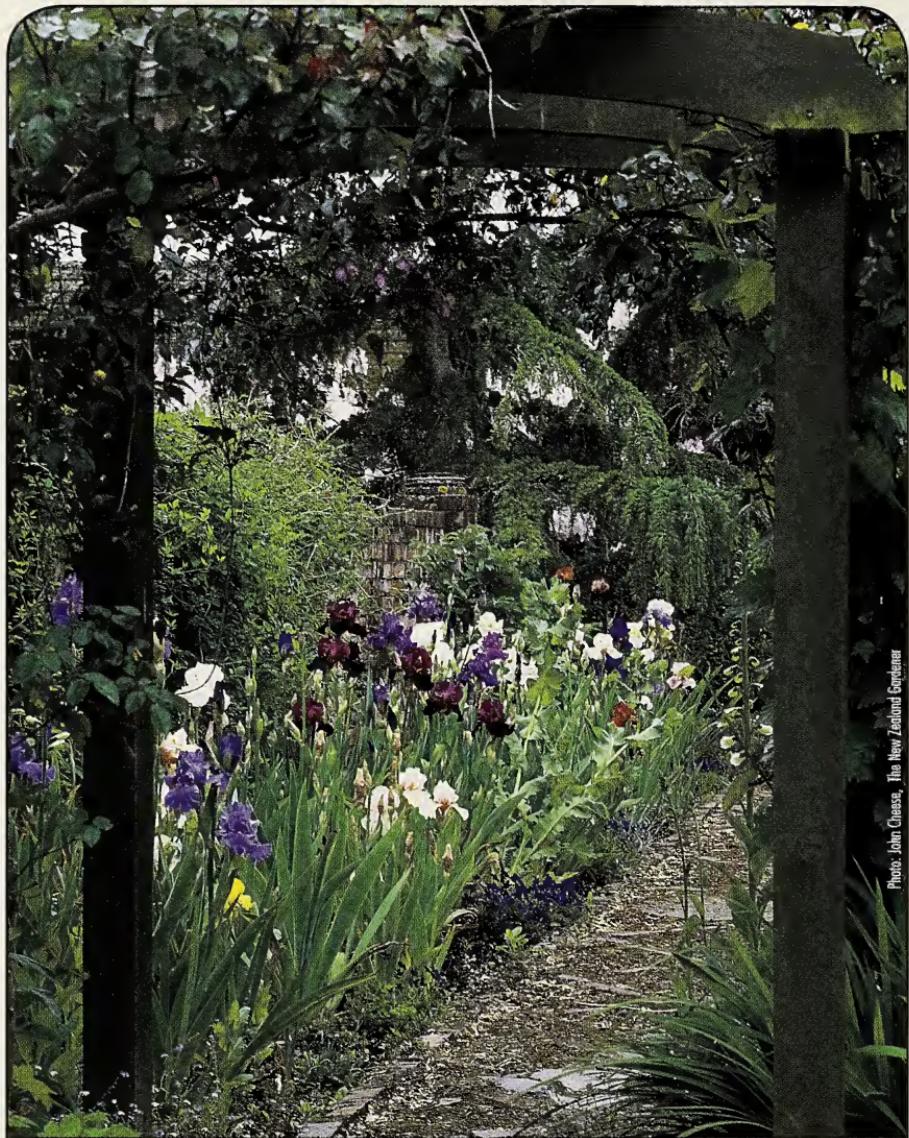


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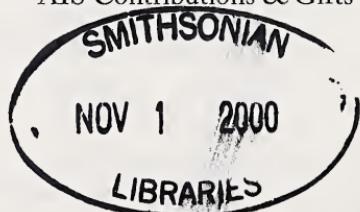
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The American Iris Society

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THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY IS A NONPROFIT INSTITUTION INCORPORATED FEBRUARY 2, 1927, IN the County of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania. By the terms of the Charter, the Corporation has no stockholders and exists for the sole purpose of promoting the culture and improvement of the *Iris*.

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Spuria Iris Society	6.00	15.00	8.00	18.00
Society for Japanese Iris	3.50	9.00	4.00	10.50
Reblooming Iris Society	7.00	18.00	8.00	21.00
Society for PCNs	6.00	15.00	8.00	18.00
Species Iris Group	5.00	12.00	6.00	15.00
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President's Message

by Clarence Mahan, Virginia



DIGGING, DIVIDING AND CLEANING IRIS RHIZOMES FOR local iris sales always means making decisions. Which cultivars will be removed from my garden to make room for seedlings and new irises? Sometimes the decision is easy, especially if a cultivar has not performed well, lacks distinction, does not give me good show stalks, or doesn't perform well as a garden iris. The decision is also easy if the iris is exceptionally beautiful and performs outstandingly year after year.

This year when I was digging, dividing, cleaning and labeling, I came to the huge clump of one of my favorite intermediate bearded irises, the elegant metallic red-violet VOILA (Gatty '73). Irises come and irises go, but a clump of VOILA in bloom is always the epitome of glowing splendor. I cannot imagine my garden ever being without VOILA.

The next iris I dug and cleaned was PRESENCE (Gatty '87). Light pink with mauve highlights, this tall bearded iris with flowers of great substance and pleated ruffles has been a top performer in my garden for more than a decade. Its branching and bud count are superb. It was a coincidence that I dug two Gatty irises, one after the other, because they were not planted close to each other. But it is not a coincidence that two of Joe Gatty's irises have been "keepers" in my garden. Joe created many "keepers."

As I cleaned VOILA and PRESENCE, I thought of all the beautiful, high performance Gatty irises I have known. The "President's Message" is not the place to be listing irises, but I cannot resist mentioning two of my favorites. Anyone who has ever grown FLAIR ('76) knows that this wisteria blue beauty is ideal both as a garden iris and as a producer of show stalks for winning blue ribbons. And then there is SUNNY AND WARM ('87)! I always thought this lemon yellow bitone was Dykes quality. With three flowers in many sockets on incredibly branched stalks, it set a standard few tall bearded irises can meet.

But, as my five-year old grandson, Dallas, asked his older brother after listening to a long discourse on favorite TV shows: What's the point? Why am I writing a "President's Message" about Joe Gatty's irises?

The point is that Joe Gatty was an exceptionally talented hybridizer who created breeding lines that greatly improved the quality of irises in our gardens and that continue to have potential to improve irises in the future. His life and work, along with the lives and accomplishments of other distinguished hybridizers, deserve to be documented in a thorough and professional manner to document the history of iris development. Also, many iris enthusiasts, myself included, enjoy reading the stories of our great hybridizers and their accomplishments. This is why I am very pleased that Anner Whitehead has agreed to be Project Director for our New Historical Chronicles Project.

The basic criterion for subjects of the New Chronicles is that they shall have received the Hybridizer's Medal, but there will undoubtedly be exceptions. If you feel you are up to the task and have a favorite hybridizer you would like to memorialize in an historical chronicle, please contact Anner Whitehead. I have known Anner for a number of years and can say from first-hand experience that her writing and editing skills are formidable. I have sometimes asked her to review and critique articles I have written; my work has always come out much the better because of her suggestions and corrections.

We are very lucky to have Anner volunteer for this major undertaking. I have volunteered to do an historical chronicle on Dr. Currier McEwen and his work. Dorothy Willott has stepped forward to do a chronicle on Walter Welch. Doing one of these chronicles will not be an easy undertaking, but those who prepare them will be making major contributions to AIS and iris history.

I would also like to remind everyone that Keith McNames has now organized and catalogued the material in our AIS Library. If you are working on a research or writing project and need some information that might be available from our library, contact Keith. At the same time, I would like to urge everyone who has iris books, hybridizing records, old iris and nursery catalogues, and similar material to consider sending them to the AIS Library if you no longer need them.

Also, please consider revising your wills to give iris materials to the AIS Library. Even if the AIS Library ends up with excess copies of books or catalogues, we can always put such excess items in silent auctions at AIS conventions and this will be a double blessing. The proceeds from

the sale of such items will go to improving the AIS Library, and the iris books and catalogues will be made available to others who love irises.

I want to extend my personal congratulations to Stephanie Rust on winning the *Clarke Cosgrove Memorial Award for Youth Achievement!* I mentioned Stephanie in my first President's Message. It does not surprise me in the least that she has earned this award. Her knowledge of irises has me in a permanent state of awe. Congratulations also to Monica Combrink and Marc Loberg! You should be very proud of being first and second runners-up! The parents of Stephanie, Monica and Mark should be very proud. It is a shame we have no awards for being great parents!

A few months ago I received a significant complaint about the April *Bulletin*. When I became president of AIS, I asked our editor not to put my photograph in the April, July and October issues of the *Bulletin*. I thought that having my photograph in the January issue each year was enough. Who wants to see an old guy with a mustache every time he or she picks up a *Bulletin*? Well, I found out!

When my daughter-in-law asked Dallas, that five-year old grandson, how he liked the April *Bulletin*, he responded: "It's not very good this time. There's no picture of grandpa." Surprisingly, no one else has complained about this—not even my other grandsons, Ryan and Logan. I wonder: Is one complaint sufficient reason to ask our editor to get my picture in the *Bulletin* more often? I think I will wait and see if someone else complains. ☺

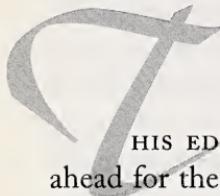
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Editor's Message

by Terry Aitken, Washington State



HIS EDITOR CONTINUES UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. IN PLANNING ahead for the next year's *Bulletin* issues, I believe that there is no more important goal for iris hybridizers than extending the bloom season for all types of irises. I would encourage one and all to send me your thoughts on this general theme.

For the spring issue, the emphasis will be on cultural tips. If any of you have favorite tricks that make iris growing easier, please share them with the rest of us.

Bruce Filardi will be in touch with hybridizers for an update on the latest and greatest in future hybrids.

The iris world has lost another leader. Bob Schreiner passed away August 8th after an extended illness. Keith Keppel and Bennett Jones are working together on a report on his life and times which will appear in the January *Bulletin*. ☙

Correction to April, 2000 Bulletin:

Pages 27 - 28: In our write-up of Dorothy Guild for her Hybridizer's Medal, the following change needs to be made:

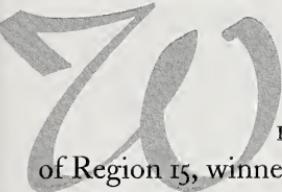
"Dorothy began her hybridizing work with Miniature Tall Bearded back in the 1960s. Her first Honorable Mention awards were in 1969 (not 1970) for SPARKLE BRITE and WHISPERING SPRITE."

Youth Views

Contest Winners

by Jean Morris, Missouri

Loren Storm-Perez Wins Essay Contest



E WISH TO CONGRATULATE LOREN STORM-PEREZ of Region 15, winner of the 2000 Ackerman Essay Contest and the \$100 prize. Loren is from Marana, Arizona, and is a member of the Tucson Iris Society.

The contest is sponsored by the AIS Foundation and the topic changes each year. The topic for 2000 was *"What do you feel adults in your iris society could do to make iris activities more enjoyable for youth members?"* Loren's essay on this topic follows:

"Iris activities compete for my time and attention with homework, chores, friends and all the other activities in my busy life. While some young iris society members may have parents or family who are members, I do not. Based upon my experience over the last two years, I suggest adults create opportunities for more one-on-one interaction between adult and youth iris lovers through an 'iris mentoring program.'

"Iris societies could assign an adult mentor for each young member. I recommend lady mentors with young girls and men for boys. My mentor could call or e-mail me to check up on how I was doing. She could call my attention to important information in the newsletter or iris events around my region. She could send me postcards and do other things that would foster an iris-based friendship (IBF)!"

"Transportation is difficult for young iris society members who do not have their driver's license. I would enjoy it very much if my mentor came to visit me to see my irises. Tips on improving their growing conditions would be nice. It would be so much better to walk through my iris beds with an experienced grower, than reading instructions from a book. I would love to see the irises my mentor is cultivating."

"Perhaps my mentor could take me to her home or to visit other society members' gardens. I could learn from their garden designs and be introduced to new iris varieties. Because of the difficulty with transportation, my mentor could pick me up and take me to a society meeting."

"I look forward to exhibiting my irises in a show one day. Working to prepare for my first show is something I could do with my assigned adult partner. This would create a great iris memory (IM) for me.

"Another iris lovers' opportunity (ILO) we could share would be to have me work at the society booth at a local rhizome sale. I would continue to develop my knowledge of irises and my friendships with other iris growers by spending time with experienced iris lovers (EIL). I think having young society members in the booth would help attract younger potential members.

"Each society could determine how long a young member should be mentored and any minimum requirements young members should have to make the mentoring program worthwhile. The program could be adapted to fit the individual needs of each society.

"The best times I have are when I get the opportunity to visit with adult members of our local society. Unfortunately, it seems these opportunities are too few. With the support of experienced iris lovers (EIL), I think we can work together to create more opportunities for building iris-bases friendships (IBF). The love of irises crosses all ages. Iris lovers are young at heart. As a new society member and a young person, I am well rooted, but with fertilization of an experienced iris lover (EIL) as my personal mentor, growing conditions will be optimal and I would flourish!"

Essays by the other 14 youths who entered the contest will be published in the youth newsletter, *The Iris Fan*. They were Amanda Cummings, Region 2; Laura Gibson, Region 4; Sarah Ann Elliott, Region 7; Nicole Winkelmann, Region 9; Heidi Ann Muller, Region 11; Harmony Muller, Region 11; Haunnah Weller, Region 14; Sylvia Chapman, Region 16; Stephanie Strauss, Region 17; Alexa Cahalan, Region 18; Aaron Dixon, Region 18; Christopher Rust, Region 18; Stephanie Rust, Region 18; Joshua Winzer, 13, Region 18.

Thank you to all who wrote essays. We encourage regional editors to print these essays in their respective bulletins.

Clarke Cosgrove Contest Nominations Needed

One cannot help being inspired by the above essay. Thus inspired, it is now time to nominate deserving youth members for the Clarke Cosgrove Memorial Award for Youth Achievement. We had youth essays representing over one-third of the regions. Surely we should receive nominations from a third of our regions as well.

Any AIS member may nominate any AIS youth member. Think of youths who participate in club or regional events or those who ask questions about iris culture or hybridizing. Mention the youth's age and

region. If you need a list of the youth's activities, ask a club officer, the youth's parents or grandparents, or speak directly with the youth. Typed or hand written nominations are acceptable. Limit your nomination to two pages. A youth may be nominated by more than one person, or by someone from another region.

Your nominee will likely have participated in some of the following activities. Add personal attributes of the youth at the end of your nomination. Use the list below as a guide.

- Growing a fine iris garden
- Actively hybridizing
- Writing for an iris publication
- Helping an iris organization through a committee or activity
- Visiting local iris gardens
- Attending regional/national tours
- Studying to be an AIS judge
- Promoting irises and/or the AIS to others
- Signing up new AIS members
- Competing enthusiastically in shows
- Experimenting with irises
- Showing an interest in the various iris classes and sizes
- Demonstrating leadership skills

Mail your entries to Jean E. Morris, 682 Huntley Heights Drive, Ballwin, MO 63021 by January 31, 2001. You may e-mail your nomination (see address in front of *Bulletin*) but do not send as an attachment. The Youth Committee will code entries to conceal identities and send them to a carefully selected panel of Judges. The winner will receive a trophy and a cash prize that will be presented at the AIS Convention in York, Pennsylvania. Please encourage a youth member by writing a nomination today. 



Brandon Westervelt (front), Marc Loberg, Stephanie Rust, Seann Perry (back left to right), at the AIS Convention.

International News

by George & Margaret Sutton, California
and Bruce Filardi, Oregon

Second Gold Medal for the Meeks

Sergey Loktev, Russia:

Congratulations to Duane Meek on the success of his OPAL BROWN in Moscow's International Iris Competition. This represents the Meeks' second gold medal in a row, as Joyce Meek's MAKIN' MUSIC ('87) was last year's medal winner. First place this year went to OPAL BROWN (D. Meek '96), second place to MARIE MY LOVE (Niswonger '97), and third place to SILETZ BAY (Ernst '96). For further information on rules to enter this competition, interested hybridizers may contact Sergey Loktev, PO Box 54, Moscow, 129226 Russia.

Keppel Irises Top German Popularity Poll

Rainer Zeh, Germany:

Rainer Zeh recently announced the results of the 2000 Popularity Poll in Germany, with Keith Keppel's LOCAL COLOR and FANCY WOMAN taking the top two positions. The top ten vote-getters were: 1, LOCAL COLOR (Keppel '96); 2, FANCY WOMAN (Keppel '95); 3, GYPSY ROMANCE (Schreiner '94); 4, FEATURE ATTRACTION (Schreiner '94); 5, RIPPLING RIVER (Schreiner '95); 6, DUSKY CHALLENGER (Schreiner '86); 7, YES (Blyth '96/'97); 8, MOUNTAIN MAJESTY (Ghio '95); 9, CASCADE SPRINGS (Schreiner '94); 10 (tie), MALLOW DRAMATIC (Gatty '96) and WISHFUL THINKING (Keppel '96).

Wisley Trial Results, England:

Following are the results of the RHS Long Term Trial at Wisley, of Tall Bearded Iris 1998-2000:

Award of Garden Merit (AGM) to ALIZÉS, (Cayeux); CLEAR MORNING SKY, (R Ernst); THORNBIRD, (M Byers); BLACK SERGEANT, (F Gadd); BOB NICHOL, (RE Nichol); DWIGHT ENYS, (RE Nichol); GARLANDA, (RE Nichol); RIVER AVON, (G Sutton); Seedlings 94-4-5 and D87-15-7 (LJ Donnell); LARK RISE, (CEC Bartlett); EILEEN LOUISE, (BLC Dodsworth); and five additional yet-to-be-named CEC Bartlett seedlings

Successful Franciris 2000 Exposition, France:

News comes from France of the great success of the much-anticipated Franciris 2000 exposition in Brittany. Although the weather could have been better, visitors were not deterred from a trip to see the collection of all existing French introductions, as well as displays of all Dykes Medal winners. Awards were presented based on the assessment of a team of judges from three countries, and the general public was also invited to vote on their favorites. The judges selected SAMSARA (Ransom '96) as best French iris, followed by MER DU SUD (Cayeux '97), DAMOISELLE (Ransom '97), CLAUDE-LOUIS GAYRARD (Ransom '96), and MASSALIA (Anfosso '95). The public awarded the title of Iris of the Millennium to PROVENÇAL (Cayeux '78). Public favorites among recent French irises were PROVENÇAL, TUMULTUEUX (Cayeux '95), ANDALOU (Cayeux '93), BALIVERNE (Ségui '91), and BUISSON DE ROSES (Cayeux '97). Favorite historic irises were PERSAN (Cayeux '38), BROcéliande (Cayeux '35), and THAÏS (Cayeux '26).

Rare Historic Irises Saved

from the Kent Group, B.I.S., and Lawrence Ransom, France:

[Editor's Note: at the time this was written, the Kent group was planning a trip to FRANCIRIS 2000. Lawrence Ransom, a member living in France, sent the following information about the French irises.]

Bréal-sous-Montfort is situated 17 km west of Rennes in Brittany. Les Jardins de Brocéliande have recently been established there. The SFIB (French Iris Society) is joint organizer. The bearded irises planted there can...be divided into two groups: recent, and historic French varieties, these mostly saved from the Marc Simonet collection. The Simonet collection comprised a great many ancient irises by Cayeux, Vilmorin and Lémon... At the death of Marc Simonet in 1965 the huge Simonet Collection of named pogon cultivars and his own interspecies seedlings was transferred from Antibes in the south of France to Chevreloup near Paris... The groundsmen at Chevreloup were finding the upkeep of the plantings more and more difficult, and the ground was needed for other plants... Before the collection was finally ploughed up by the Museum in late 1995,...rhizomes were lifted by two botanical gardens: the Parc Floral of Paris and Les Jardins de Brocéliande... In September the Parc Floral of Paris very kindly sent me a number of very rare varieties of particular interest to the BIS and also to HIPS... I sent these rare rhizomes to Mr. Bomford for the 2002 BIS Convention plantings: CYDNUS, Wallace 1929; EMPRESS, Caparne 1901; ETTA,

Caparne 1901; ODIN, Caparne 1901; SARPEDON, Yeld 1907; and LADY FOSTER, Foster 1913.

New forms of *Iris albertii* reported

Boris Guzhavin, Kazakhstan:

Boris Guzhavin writes of hybridizing attempts using *I. albertii*, the rare national species of Kazakhstan. He has discovered new forms and colors in the wild, around his home town. He welcomes correspondence from interested parties: Boris Guzhavin, PO Box 67, 480000 Almaty, Kazakhstan.

2000 Iris Competition at the Palmengarten

Gisela Dathe, Germany:

Each year, a team of judges evaluates the entries in the Palmengarten Competition. Two separate assessments take place: second-year plants, and third-year plants.

This year, the third-year plants were dominated by German entries. First place and the Countess von Zeppelin Trophy were awarded to Siegmar Goerbitz seedling 8924-A, a dark violet self from PRINZESSIN ZUR LIPPE x DUSKY CHALLENGER. The remaining awards were swept by introductions from Manfred Beer: Second place was awarded to TRINY (Beer '98), third to LALLENDORFER CARNEVAL (Beer '00), and fourth to MELANIE STEUERNAGEL (Beer '99). Interestingly enough, Mr. Beer obtained all three of these irises from crosses with EDITH WOLFORD as pod parent.

Entrants from Slovakia showed off in the second-year division, with first place going to Anton Mego seedling 95-0085 (HONKY TONK BLUES X RUSTLER), second place to Ladislav Muska seedling 06-LM-98 (LOUISE WATTS X (SKY HOOKS x LADY MADONNA)), and third place to Muska's 07-LM-98 ((GENIALITY x RINGO) X (PARADISE x RAKETE)). Fourth place was awarded to an American entrant, Rob Stetson's light blue seedling RS-94-KI (PACIFIC MIST X SPECIAL FEATURE).

Rebloom Report and Aussie Medal Winners

The South Australian Iris Society in both the May and June newsletters included a list of irises reblooming in their area. In May (equivalent to November in the USA) irises blooming in various members' gardens were: BONUS MAMA, BOUNTIFUL HARVEST, BABY BLESSED, SPATZEL, CHIEF HEMATITE, AZTEC BURST, PERFECT COUPLE, LIGHT BEAM, HOLY NIGHT,

AUTUMN ECHO, BERRY BLUSH, ENGLISH CHARM, RECURRING RUFFLES, AURIC, HARVEST OF MEMORIES, ST. PETERSBURG, OCEAN PACIFIC, PACIFIC TIDE, BREAKERS, THRILLER, ALL AMERICAN and various seedlings. In June the list includes ICE SCULPTURE, SCENTED BUBBLES, GIRLS' FAVOURITE, COMO SURPRISE, CORAL STRAND, CENTERFOLD, FEED BACK, GRECIAN GODDESS, FLUENT, ORANGE PLUME, SMOKE RINGS, TRIUMPHANT, VOODOO BLUES, plus some of the same ones from the May list.

Newsletter editor Darrelle Watson has some interesting observations concerning rebloom, as follows: "Reflection on the rebloom we have listed over the past couple of years, plus the observations of several who have been looking at this for much longer, highlights several possibilities: Most Space-Agers seem to occasionally rebloom, even if not listed for this...and this is borne out by catalogues from the 1960s, when they were the subject of considerable effort... therefore probably worth using in hybridizing for rebloom. Vigorous growth, and flat forms, such as FLAT RATE and SIX PACK, also seem to tie into this line of breeding."

West Australian Iris Society announced that the Australian Dykes Medal for 1999 was awarded to Graeme Grosvenor for his apricot pink MOVE ON (TB)... The 1999 I.S.A. Medal was awarded to John Taylor's GOING SOUTH (LA)... cream flushed pink, veined mustard... This same cultivar also won the 1999 Sydney Louisiana Iris Spectacular. ☙

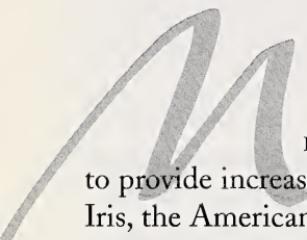


Nina Alexeeva (left) receives Warburton Medal on behalf of Dr. Rodionenko of Russia, from Dave Niswonger.

Historical Chronicles Project

Introduction of New Project for AIS

by Anner M. Whitehead, Project Director



INDFUL OF OUR MISSION TO EDUCATE, AND EAGER to provide increased opportunities for delight for all those who love the Iris, the American Iris Society is embarking upon an exciting adventure to be called the *New Historical Chronicles Project*. We will be documenting the lives, the work, and the creative visions of the great hybridizers of our times, and making a record of their accomplishments available to all who are interested in learning more about those geniuses who worked, or continue to work, to give form to their passion for the rainbow flower.

The New Historical Chronicles are *new* because they are not the first such series of documents to originate within AIS. In the 1960s, members of the AIS Historical Robin compiled anthologies of reference materials to share among themselves. These documents, the Historical Iris Chronicles, fall into several categories. Most concern a single hybridizer, but some concern a pair or group of related hybridizers, and some are united by a theme, such as poetry, medicine, or the dwarf irises. The first Chronicles contain information gleaned from diverse primary and secondary sources including excerpts from articles in the *AIS Bulletin* or other publications, registration data and catalog descriptions, biographical and bibliographical information by and about the subject, notes on hybridizing goals and methods, private correspondence, and so forth. They are rich but concise compilations, and they are of inestimable value to the student of iris hybridizing or the history of garden irises.

The New Historical Chronicles will continue this tradition and will include many of the same sorts of materials, but will also differ somewhat in form and content. Although several notable early hybridizers whose work was seminal or whose influence is strongly felt today will be included, the New Historical Chronicles will be infused with a spirit of contemporaneity. We intend that accomplishments in a broad range of irises be honored, and our selection of initial subjects will reflect this. We will be drawing our subjects primarily from the ranks of those who received the AIS Hybridizer's Medal, and we hope to bring together not

only published documents, including documents not easily accessed, but also fresh information and anecdotal materials hitherto unrecorded. Our goal is to provide both expert and novice hybridizers, as well as students of iris history and those who enjoy reading great stories about people in the world of irises, with affordable publications which are uniquely interesting and useful.

As of the writing of this article, we are planning the course of the Project. We are addressing the form the New Historical Chronicles will take, evaluating the resources at hand, and giving consideration to the inevitable challenges which will be encountered by the primary compilers of the individual New Chronicles. Our intent is to have the preliminary issues resolved this season so that we can begin to move forward purposefully and efficiently in the new year.

As Project Director I would be very pleased to hear from those who feel they can make a contribution, whether as sources of memories, correspondence, or other useful documents or materials, or as primary compilers or research support staff. I shall also be contacting people directly whom we feel are especially suited to address certain subjects or logistical problems. AIS is confident that we will be able to count on your cooperation as we undertake the ongoing series of publications known as the *New Historical Chronicles Project*. 

Photo: Corlew



Tony & Dorothy Willot (left) receive Hybridizers Medal from Clarence Mahan at Dallas Convention.

2001 Iris Odyssey

York, Pennsylvania

May 22 - 26, 2001



ONGRATULATIONS DALLAS ON THE 2000 CONVENTION!

That was great and we thank you.

Please mark your calendars and plan to attend the AIS convention, *2001 Iris Odyssey*, May 22 - 26, 2001, sponsored by the Susquehanna Iris Society, York, Pennsylvania. Convention Headquarters will be located at the Marriott Hunt Valley Inn, 245 Shawan Road, Hunt Valley, Maryland 21031, telephone (410) 785-7000.

Section meetings and the welcoming dinner will be held on Wednesday, May 23rd with garden tours on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday May 24th through 26th. On tour will be ten gardens in Pennsylvania and Maryland including, the beautiful gardens of Dykes Medal winner Sterling Innerst and the commercial gardens of Joan Roberts and Carol Warner.

Downtown Baltimore is only 20 minutes from Hunt Valley and is easily accessible by the light rail system. Local attractions include Baltimore's renowned Inner Harbor, the National Aquarium, Science Center, ESPN Zone, Little Italy (fabulous restaurant district), Camden Yards (home of the Baltimore Orioles Baseball Team), the Baltimore Zoo, shopping, restaurants, and much more. While you're in the Maryland area, be sure to have some delicious Chesapeake Bay seafood.

Pennsylvania includes many attractions from the Harley Davidson factory in York to the historic battlefields in Gettysburg. Other areas that are suitable for day trips include Hershey with its Hershey Gardens and Chocolate World. Beautiful Longwood Gardens with acres of walking gardens and conservatories is only one and a half hours by car in Kennett Square. Amish Country is located in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. You'll be able to tour an Amish farm, see horse drawn carriages used for everyday transportation, visit the Strasburg railroad, and view the beautiful Lancaster County countryside. Be sure to sample some shoo-fly pie and other Pennsylvania Dutch treats. Don't forget shopping:

Lancaster has numerous outlet stores, all conveniently located. There's so much to see, you'll want to plan your trip early.

Washington D. C. is about one hour away and offers all the special attractions of our nation's capitol.

Baltimore Washington International Airport (BWI) is only 35 minutes from Hunt Valley.

Specific information regarding convention registration fees, room rates, and section meeting schedules will be available in the January 2001 AIS Bulletin and on the AIS Website. Plan to attend now and get ready for a wonderful experience. Visa and MasterCard will be accepted for convention registration fees. 



Larry Lauer (left) receives Frank Cook Cup from Ginny Spoon for PENNY LANE (Best Out Of Region Iris).

Photos: Cordow



Hooker Nichols (left) receives Presidents Cup from Clarence Mahan for VEGAS WEEKEND (Best In Region Iris).

Hip, Hips Hooray!

For the HIPS Happening!

by Ruth and Jim Burke, New York

70

E MUST RE-ECHO THE TITLE OF THIS PIECE AND SAY that the committee responsible for this "HIPS Happening" deserves a trio of "Hoorays" because of its superior production. For a first effort it was simply a masterpiece, with one gorgeous garden after another. This great production will serve as a model for all such HIPS (Historic Iris Preservation Society) events to follow.

We first visited the site of Indian Springs Farm, a large old nursery that had supplied plants to the central New York area. It has been closed for many years and simply allowed to go its natural way. It proved interesting to witness the way so many of the plants *naturalized*, and in a restrained way, seemed to be prospering. The Siberian iris, although smaller in size, still maintained their native beauty and exhibited outstanding vigor.

Our next stop was the Phoenix Flower Farm, Helen and John Schuler's commercial enterprise. Contained on this property is their own historical iris section, meticulously maintained and giving clear evidence of great grooming and loads of *TLC*. Here we viewed old friends from gardens past, like GALA MADRID (Peterson '67) and BABBLING BROOK (Keppel '66). One, a great personal favorite, GIBSON GIRL (Gibson '46), had been a gift to me from a friend 25 years ago with a promise that it would rebloom, and what excitement when it did in late September! Another, HONORABILE (M. Lemon 1840), had been sent to me as a slide for use in a judges' training program. And here it was, "in the flesh". This was a very memorable visit to a splendid garden.

Our next stop was the Crandall and Cummings gardens, and we're off to Mexico—Mexico, New York, that is. Diane and Clayton Crandall are retired and have worked hard to establish this garden, consisting of a series of raised beds, all carefully tended and carefully marked. Here, once more, was a walk down Memory Lane. There was ELEANOR'S PRIDE (Watkins '52), a favorite of my neighbor and fellow irisarian, Greg Schillerli. He grew it for many years and shared it with me when we first joined AIS. Then there was WHOLE CLOTH (Cook '56)

and SOUTHERN COMFORT (Georgia Hinkle 1963), one of my first "love affairs" with an iris. Here again, an assortment of historicals were flawlessly grown and presented with great flair.

On the other side of Mexico, in Anna Mae Cummings' garden, we were again treated to unusually fine garden technique and flawless culture by a woman who has been bringing garden beauty to her neighborhood for more than 37 years. Many of her historicals were purchased when they were brand new! Of special interest were AMAS (Sir R.M. Foster 1885) and SAN FRANCISCO (Mohr '27). This later won the Dykes Medal, as did OLYMPIC TORCH (Schreiner's '56) and WINTER OLYMPICS (Opal Brown '61).

Following this we visited the garden of Liz and Larry Dishaw, which was worthy of the center piece of *Home and Garden* magazine. This is an 80 acre farm where, in addition to gardening, they raise exotic pheasants, peacocks, ducks, geese and rabbits. In the midst of this setting is the antique iris garden featuring nearly 200 historic specimens, all grown to perfection. It was a delight to see CUP RACE (Buttrick '63), FLAVESCENS (DeCandolle '39), and LICORICE STICK (Schreiner's '60), one of the early true "blacks". In addition we saw PLUMERIE (Ware 1830), and the still popular STEPPING OUT (Schreiner's '64).

Our last tour stop was Enchantment Acres Flower Farm operated by Donna and Ron James. On this large estate, replete with landscaped farm pond, is a wonderfully crafted gazebo which offered not only a peaceful spot from which to oversee the gardens but also gave rest to the weary conventioneers. The gardens themselves are offered in theme fashion; water gardens, woodland area, ornamental grass area, secret garden, kids' garden, Big Rock remembrance garden and, of course, an historical garden. All of these were immaculately groomed by Ron, recently retired, and Donna, a disciplinary specialist in the local school district, iris activist, gardener and artist in residence! Irises that caught my eye were COL. CANDELOT (Millet & Sons '07), CALIENTE (Luihn '68), MARY FRANCES (Gaulter '71, Dykes Medal '79), my first pink iris, PINK SLEIGH (N. Rudolph '70), and another old friend, WABASH (Williamson '36). Finally, I have to mention SAMBUCINA (Linnaeus 1759). What a thrill to look at an iris that has been growing continually, since long before we became a nation, and still looking wonderful!

Thanks to Donna and Ron James and all the great committee members of the Empire State Iris Society who produced this wonderful spectacle and gave us this wonderful iris experience. 

Pacific Coast Iris

Species in the Garden

by Colin Rigby, Washington State



F ALL THE SPECIES AND SUBSPECIES OF THE SERIES *Californicae*, only four have played a significant role in the development of our modern hybrids, now commonly called Pacific Coast Irises or Pacificas. Of the four, only two make good garden subjects: *Iris douglasiana*, which also serves as the backbone of the modern hybrids, and *I. innominata* running a close second. Both are worthy additions to any garden.

I. douglasiana is the most divergent of the species, with leaves that may be short, narrow, dark and glossy green to large, wide, and dull blue-green. It also has the widest distribution, extending from the foothills of the Coast Range to the Pacific Ocean, and from south-western Oregon some 700 miles south into California. Its clean evergreen foliage, its ability to grow quickly and easily from seed, and the many unusual and interesting collected forms, have made *I. douglasiana* a garden favorite for many decades.

Iris innominata, which only grows wild in Oregon west of the Cascade Mountains, has thin, grass-like foliage which lends a delicate look to the plants. Although there are pale lavender and purple shades found, *I. innominata* is more generally associated with deep yellow and gold flowered forms. Some yellow forms have washes and/or heavy veining of red or deep purple on the falls which only helps to intensify the brightness of the yellow coloring. *I. innominata* enjoys cool growing conditions, and if these conditions are not met, this iris can be difficult to maintain.

Another important iris used in breeding is *I. tenax*. It is the most cold hardy of the series and the only species to go dormant in winter. From the western side of the Cascade Mountains and throughout the Coast Range, this iris grows from the Oregon/California border to just below Puget Sound in Washington State. Color forms are found in pure white, pale pinks, to lavenders, to deep purples with clear white signal areas, handsomely set off against the dark contrast of the petal color. Yellow

and cream color forms, sometimes referred to as *I. gormanii*, are also found. *I. tenax* forms nice clumps with numerous flowers, but tends to look a little worn by midsummer, which does not give it the fresh, evergreen appearance of either *I. douglasiana* or *I. innominata*.

The fourth irises used in the breeding of the Pacific Coast Irises is *I. munzii*. Found only in Tulare County, California, this plant gives us the lovely, light turquoise blues, sometimes referred to as the 'munzii blue', in our modern flowers. This species has leaves up to 30 or more inches long, wide and blue-green in color, with flower stalks in proportion to the plant. The flowers are not 'blue', but rather shades of lavender to red-purple, narrow petaled and up to 5 - 6 inches across on stalks that are tall and in proportion to their leaves. *I. munzii* is slow to increase and very prone to rust disease. It has taken considerable time and effort on the part of hybridizers to eliminate these defects while still maintaining the pure blue tones that have come from this iris species. Since it can take two years for *I. munzii* rhizomes to grow to flowering size, it is not uncommon that plants will bloom every other year.

All the other species have played their part in the development of the PCI's but their role in modern hybridizing has been somewhat minor. Since none of the species except *I. douglasiana*, *I. innominata* and *I. tenax* are clumpers, and flower petal parts are generally narrow and spidery, most of the others are grown, if at all, as garden curiosities or for the sake of preservation. Rhizomes are best described as slender and wiry and, in some species with only three or four leaves to the rhizome, the appearance of the plant is somewhat skimpy and unattractive for garden appearance. Since the plant in nature is in competition with native grasses and other endemic plants, this skimpy appearance is not as noticeable or objectionable under natural conditions. These thin grassy leaves and delicate flower parts in association with other wild native plants can create a natural scene of delicate and ephemeral beauty that is somehow lost under most cultivated garden conditions. Plants with short, compact rhizomes that form tight compact plants are the product of modern hybridization and are seldom found as such in nature.

In nature, Pacific Coast Irises grow under a very diverse range of conditions from cool, moist seacoast to warm, dry mountain slopes. Some grow where the winters are cold with snow and freezing temperatures, while others are found in locations that remain virtually frost free year round. They are well adapted to their environments, a factor that helps contribute to the great diversity within each individual species. This and their ability to intercross freely has led at times to some

confusion and controversy as to the true identity of some species. It is not uncommon that a plant will change its characteristics when brought into the protected shelter of garden conditions. Some plants will respond by growing taller, producing larger flower parts, or by forming a tighter more compact plant. PCI's prefer a soil that is well drained and, although they need some sun in order to bloom, are often found growing in the shade of trees that offer some protection from the hot afternoon sun.

Pacific Coast Irises have acquired a somewhat unjust reputation as being rather difficult to grow under garden conditions. If we consider one or two important factors about their natural habitat, they should not be any more difficult to grow than any other iris type. They come from a Mediterranean climate with long, dry, warm summers and cool, moist winters. With the beginning of the rains and cooler fall weather, the plant begins to grow, reaching its growth climax in spring and early summer. With bloom and seed set it again begins a dormant resting period which coincides with the warm, dry summer season. They can not be transplanted with any degree of success until they are in full and active growth and have established a good root system which helps to sustain them through the shock of transplanting. Under some conditions this transplanting period may well be spring after the cold winter months have passed and the weather has turned warmer. It must be done, however, before the plant reaches its natural bloom and seed set peak and before it begins its summer resting period. PCI's will not tolerate a combination of water and warm direct sun. This condition can lead to a crown rot that can destroy the entire plant in a very short time. Under garden conditions they enjoy some summer water but it must always be given under cool, shaded conditions and never in direct sun. We must remember that in their natural environment, any summer water they receive is soon followed by warm dry air with relatively low humidity. The warm, higher humidity summer conditions of the middle and eastern United States is perhaps the biggest contributing factor for the failure of these irises in those regions.

The Pacific Coast Iris can be (and is) successfully grown outside its natural habitat if a winter mulch is used to protect its roots from freezing, and good to excellent air circulation is available in summer. It goes without saying that the species or near-species types are stronger and more robust than modern hybrids. Often, starting plants from seed is the best method of establishing this iris in areas outside its natural habitat. The Pacific Coast Irises have been grown for a long time, mostly in England, New Zealand and Australia, but it wasn't until the late 1960s

that they were "rediscovered" in this country and serious hybridizing began. Changes in colors, patterns, flower shapes and forms during this short period of time have far surpassed any expected goals. Although modern hybrids have little resemblance to their cousins from the wild, the species should be cultivated and preserved for their rich treasures. Nature does its own job of natural hybridization and plants with new and unusual characteristics are constantly being discovered. The robust vitality of the species, along with the greater chance for diversity, makes these Pacific Coast Irises good garden subjects and well worth the extra effort of attempting to duplicate their natural growing conditions. The natural grace and delicate look of the species flower is not lost on the discriminating gardener. ☺

[Originally printed in the *Proceedings of an International Symposium*, St. Louis, MO, March, 1995.]

Photo: Corlew



Tom Abrego (left) receives Walther Cup from Clarence Mahan for DIABOLIQUE (most HM votes).

Destiny Dallas, 2000

Dallas Garden Reviews

Convention Preparation

by Terry Aitken, Washington State

The annual AIS National Convention is *the* major event each year for the American Iris Society. Hundreds of Iris enthusiasts, from budding novices to eager youth, to experienced long-time hybridizers, participate and tour the specially prepared convention display gardens. Ever wonder what goes in to preparing for such an event?

National conventions are scheduled five or six years in advance of actual dates. The local sponsoring organization invites AIS to their location. The AIS Board of Directors reviews and votes on accepting the invitation. A convention planning meeting is held at the National convention each year to help and advise future convention committees with the logistics of these main events.

Two to three years before the convention, hybridizers send their best seedlings and new introductions, which are planted in the guest display gardens and maintained by the hosts until convention time. This way you get to see the newest and best irises available from a wide variety of iris growers in the tour gardens.

The target dates for these occasions are set to coincide with average peak bloom for tall bearded irises in that locale. Mother Nature sometimes has her own agenda and peak bloom can vary by two weeks before or after the average date. It is the wise hybridizer who submits guest plants that fall within this four week time frame of bloom. Medians and Siberians for the early season or Louisianas and Spurias for the late season. It is a gamble under any circumstances.

Plants at the Dallas convention overcame a severe drought and a blistering heat wave in the two years preceding the convention. Stories abound of Hooker and Bonnie Nichols and their committee potting up thousands of guest irises until less hostile weather prevailed. In spite of all of the early stress, guest irises in all of the gardens had ample bloom and were in remarkably good condition. What was very unique was the amazing range of plants that were in bloom at convention time. Early spring weather fluctuations had confused many irises to the point

that both the early blooming medians as well as the later blooming Louisianas and Spurias were in good bloom as a supplement to the Tall Bearded main event. This provided an excellent iris experience for all iris enthusiasts.

Addison Garden

by Joe Griner, New Jersey

Since my wife Margo and I had to leave the convention prior to the end of the garden tours, we rented a car to assure that we would see most of the gardens before our departure. We know it is inappropriate to "drop in" on garden hosts as they are frantically getting the gardens in top order for the tours. However, since the Addison Garden and the Arboretum were public displays, they were the first gardens that Margo, Ray Rogers (Region 19 RVP) and I scheduled for our pre-convention tours. Having gone to school in Texas, I should have recognized that the advertised distance from the hotel to the Addison Garden being "close enough" that we could walk to it was calculated in Texas distance, which is a different system of measure than that which we are accustomed to in New Jersey! Although the car was more than handy, a walk to the Addison garden would have been worthy challenge!

Over 500 guest irises were planted in the Addison City Park. While a public garden presents an opportunity for irisarians to share the beauty of irises with the general public, it also presents a unique challenge for their care beyond that which a private garden may find. A stray ball, a short cut, the picking of an "inexpensive" bouquet by a passer by, or an inappropriate use of spray by the maintenance crews all could produce some sleepless nights, if not nightmares, for the person in charge of preparing the irises for the critical eyes of the AIS Convention visitors, and the hybridizers waiting years to show off their pride and joy. The efforts of garden liaison Diana Winship paid off as "Destiny Dallas" Convention visitors found a lovely display of irises against the backdrop and protection of a long brick wall.

It did not take long for the floriferous clumps of orange and white to catch the eyes of the Region 19 trio during their pre-convention visit. Larry Lauer's TB PENNY LANE ('99) and Larry Johnson's TB IDITAROD ('98) were heads and shoulders (sorry, standards and falls) above most of their neighbors in this garden. While taking an early lead in our balloting, I would need to see an iris doing well in more than one garden on tour. Certainly there were other iris demanding our attention.

It should be added that our pre-tour included cool, windy and rainy weather which provided us with pertinent durability and substance data.

Larry Lauer's TB MEN IN BLACK ('98), with its dark suit and orange tie, had 7 buds and three balanced and proportioned blooms out on three strong, branched stalks, but without the plant vigor of its garden mate PENNY LANE. Lauer's BB ORANGE POP ('98) had great bloom too, but its flaring falls did not handle the weather as well as...yes...PENNY LANE. This iris as we saw it at Addison Park was going to set the standard for this convention!

Joe Ghio's '98 TB, LANAI, light orange with peach and light yellow infusion, had many stalks with up to 11 buds. Rick Ernst's lavender bitone TB TROPICAL ENCOUNTER ('98) was striking with its orange throat and beard. NIGHT GAME (TB '96), in deep red violet with orange beards, SILK BROCADE (TB '99), a cream-pink ground plicata with violet markings and orange beards, and blue-violet luminata FANCY DRESS (TB '98) continued the tradition of the unique colors and patterns one comes to expect from Keith Keppel. SILENT RAIN (Burseen '97, TB) may have provided a "Queen of Show" stalk had there been a show this day, as it was nicely branched with a balance of blooms. RUFFLED GODDESS (Tasco '93, TB) was a nice blue living up to its name on a good plant.

Seedling FC91-3E of the late Frank Carr (Region 19) had 6 - 7 buds on 8 - 10 stalks on a good quality plant. Similar plant vigor, stalk numbers, strength and branching and floriferousness could be surmised on the plant remaining when we visited the Arboretum, even though the Arboretum volunteers were out trimming the stalks off earlier bloom. This iris was white, fused blue-violet in the tight standards, and stitched with clean blue-violet on the falls.

Lucille Pinkerton introduced OWYHEE DESERT in '96. My first view of this TB at the Addison Garden was love at first sight! As an AIS Judge, I realized that just because these flowers were "pretty" was not sufficient to give it garden awards. Even though it had tight white standards, with brown-tan flaring falls infused with white and a lovely-laced rim of white—pretty was not enough! It had the substance and durability to withstand the wind, rain, and blazing heat of Texas, far from its cooler Idaho home locale. Yet it did not have more than five buds on the three short (maybe two foot) stalks in Addison. In the three gardens in which I observed it in Dallas, it performed consistently under 27½".

While in the Arboretum Garden later that day I sought out OWYHEE DESERT and found it to be growing in similar fashion. As

I spoke to my colleagues, I was surprised to find that the lady nearby with her arm in a sling was the proud hybridizer, Lucille Pinkston. (We found out later that she was one of the injured but not deterred AIS Convention travelers.) She informed us that back home it grew in class and was not living up to its Idaho form here in Texas. With its unique beauty, it is doubtful that there were many judges not willing to take it home if they had a chance! Sometimes our subjectivity can't be escaped! "Mrs. Pinkston, would you like your baby to be tested in the Pinelands of New Jersey?"

The medians had many fine representatives at the Addison Garden. Dr. John Durrance's '91 lavender/yellow BB TINK remains a unique bloomer, as is Hal Stahly's red-brown-violet blend IB WRANGLER. Other impressive TB's in this garden were Bill Jones' yellow seedling 84234B, Hooker Nichols' LADY JULIET ('94) in soft yellow-pink pastels, and GARLAND MAID (Nichols '00) with peach standards and mauve plicata falls with a mauve center line.

Hopefully the Addison Iris Garden will be maintained in the future, as it has been enjoyed by many visitors as well as locals. We certainly respect the efforts of all the Dallas/Fort Worth iris people for providing us with a fine set of gardens showing the diversity and versatility of the irises. As lovely as the flowers are at the conventions, it is the people that make it most enjoyable. The warm, friendly atmosphere that was created under the leadership of Bonnie Nichols and her supportive cast was to be commended. Seeing old friends and meeting new ones always makes the iris conventions a success.

Argyle Acres

by Keith McNames, Oregon

As the bus pulled in front of Joe and Donna Spears' Argyle Acres in Argyle, Texas, the sun had not peaked through the morning haze and the oak trees seemed to provide too much shade. However, when the sun did break through, the shade was a welcome relief from the HOT Texas sun. This would be one of the tour gardens where we would not see any signs of SCORCH, and the Dueling Oaks, the native Post Oak and Black Jack Oak trees are more than likely the reason.

The guest irises were planted in the beds at the foot of the driveway near the road. Some worthy of note were: ACOMA (TB, Magee '90) showing off on a nicely branched stalk; BLANKETY BLANK (TB, Burseen '98), a smoky plum plicata, nicely branched; Ghio seedling

#7B94-118Y2 (TB), a dark mahogany red with nice form and really ruffled for this color. BUFFER ZONE (TB, Innerst '98) was a coppery brown with good branching, but not as rounded a form as seen in the Arboretum garden. CELTIC HARP (TB, Stahly '98), a clean orange with brighter orange beards had wonderful branching. CIN CIN (BB, Innerst '98), was a pretty medium blue with dark beards. HER PINKNESS (TB, Oscar Schick '98), a pretty pink, was blooming in an eye catching clump. SAILOR (IB, Marky Smith '96), displayed it's usual good form, done in shades of blue. VIOLET SHIMMER (TB, Walter Moores '98), sanded and dotted a dark violet, had nice form on a good branch. The Spurias plants were looking good and showing promise for lots of bloom to come in the weeks ahead, PEE WEE PETE (Shepard '98) was just starting to unfurl in golden brown.

Some non-guests putting on a nice show were: BOLD GOLD (TB, Gatty '87), nice bright gold; DIVINE (TB, M. Dunn '88) was looking really good. FLAMING VICTORY (TB, Weiler '83) was bright yellow with striking orange beard. MANUSCRIPT (TB, Burch '90) was a favorite in nice pink lavender. SKY SEARCH (TB, Gaulter, '93) displayed a huge clump of lovely light blue flowers with a small white patch at the end of the beards. STERLING STITCH (TB, Innerst '84), a nice light violet plicata, looked good in a clump. WHOOP 'EM UP (BB, Brady '74), gold and maroon, was in a nice clump and growing well above the foliage.

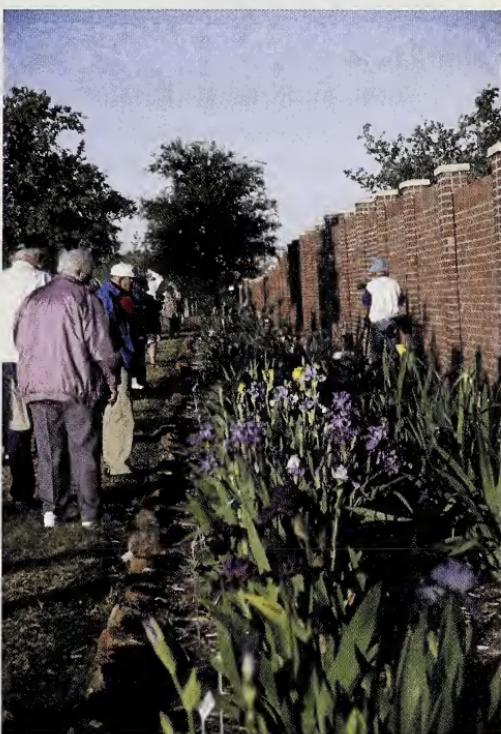
Historic irises that I was able to make note of were: EVER AND EVER (Hope '62), nice tall large amethyst; FRONTIER DAYS (Tompkins '53), tailored mahogany; GLOWING EMBERS (Sturtevant '23), showing off in a nice clump. MARY FRANCES (Gaulter '73) was growing like the Dykes Medal winner it was. OLIVE ORCHID (Austin '57) had lots of haft markings on a light blue. PATIENCE Foster 1909, was a nice raspberry. ROSE AMETHYST (Kleinsorge '57) had good color with brown hafts, one stalk blooming in a nice clump with many more to come. WILLIAM A. SETCHELL (Brehm '38) was a good looking dark blue.

I just didn't have enough time to do a complete write up of all the irises in the rock-lined beds on the walk up the drive to their log home and to the refreshments. Several tables were set up in front of the house with numerous bottles displaying many irises. Unfortunately I was unable to give a closer look because of time restraints and the bus whistle. Thanks, Joe and Donna for all your hard work. Knowing that you maintain these gardens all by yourselves while otherwise employed full time is a wonder.

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2000 Convention Gardens

All Convention Garden photos by Terry Aitken.



Addison Garden (both photos above).

All Photos: Aitken



Louisiana Iris plantings in the Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden.

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Begley Garden

by Tom Abrego, Oregon

It was with great anticipation of seeing a good collection of modern Louisiana iris cultivars that we visited the Mesquite, Texas, home of Dr. Lew Begley. It became quickly obvious that there would not be sufficient time to see everything in detail. The guest beds (there were many) were located in front of the home. Western red cedars, pecans, loblolly pines and sabal palms provided shady relief from the Texas sun and refuge to the many songbirds whose constant serenade provided a beautiful backdrop to this garden visit.

The author walked a beeline past an alluring spread of fresh fruit and croissants, past a shaded pond, past the rabbit hutch, to the first bed of Louisiana iris. This garden contains a good collection of recent Louisiana iris originations by Australian Heather Pryor. Her GARNET STORM DANCER ('97) is a ruffled rich purple black. [See photo, p. 36, July 2000 *Bulletin* - Editor] The rich golden amber color of GINGER FUDGE ('98) is very inviting. Aptly named LOST FOR WORDS ('98) is a delicious creamy peach, while PLAYFUL MINX ('97) is a luscious creamy pink.

Touring the garden it became apparent that there were dwarf iris blooming at the same time as Spurias! Lots to see, covering a wide variety of iris types. The deep red-violet color of the SDB PLUM JEWEL

(Willott '96) drew the visitor near. Keith Keppel's IB PROTOCOL ('96) stood out with its snappy yellow amoena coloration.

Former Oregonian Roger Nelson's BORN TO EXCEED ('93) showed excellent growth and displayed an incredible number of ruffled and flared silvery violet flowers. Two orange iris really looked great: CELTIC HARP (Stahly '98) and CORDOBA (Ghio '98). PHAETON (M. Smith '97) displayed handsome golden yellow flowers on well-branched stems. TROPICAL



Frog Musicians in the Begley Garden

ENCOUNTER (Ernst '98) is a very inviting ruffled and flared pinkish lavender bitone with good branching.

Two of the wilder plicatas seen were ALTERED STATES (Burseen '97) and CIRCUS CIRCUS (Sutton '97). More subtly colored KELLY LYNNE (Fan '94) looked great in all the gardens and is a personal favorite.

A bed containing historic iris was discovered. Although the bed was crowded, several stars shone: EL CAJON (Mohr-Mitchell 1926), ALTA CALIFORNIA (Mohr-Mitchell 1931), AMAS (Foster 1885), and SABLE (Cook 1938). What a pleasant discovery!

Spuria beds were at the far end of the garden. ELFIN SUNSHINE (Jenkins '98) exhibited excellent growth and good bloom. Lee Walker's seedling 93-28-4, a yellow bitone, stood out in a crowded bed. This corner of the garden had a unique attraction. A neighbor's three day old pony stood at the fence, mesmerized by all of the goings on in the garden, while its mother, nearby, totally ignored us.

Immediately behind the house is Dr. Begley's memorabilia room. A quick tour showed the astonished visitor an incredible collection of arrowheads and spear points. Regretfully, there was not time to view the fabled collection of *National Geographic* magazines, or any of the other interesting collectibles. Behind the memorabilia room is a small pond, planted with Spurias, Louisianas and *I. pseudacorus*. Behind this pond is a sloping meadow, in full bloom with wildflowers at the time of our visit. What an idyllic scene, seeing the butterflies flit among the lupines, primroses and Indian paintbrush.

The comforting shade, the constant music of the songbirds, the enticing buffet of fruit, the butterflies and the endless beds of blooming iris...what an oasis!

Tom Burseen's Garden

by George Sutton, California

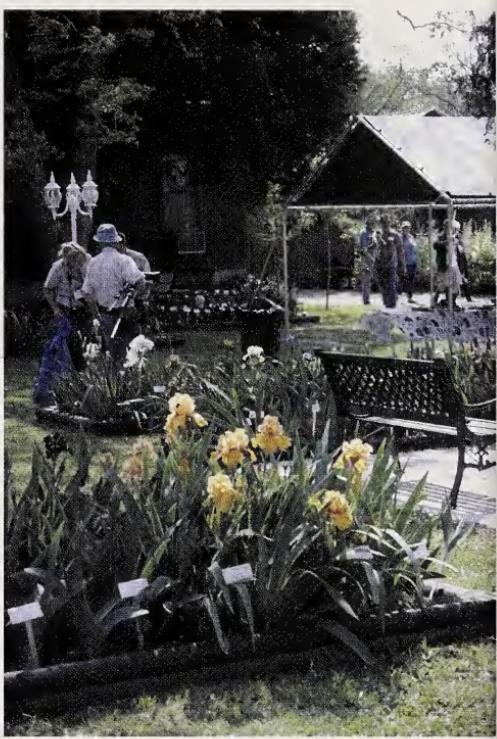
What, no buses lost? What a fun convention, with lovely gardens and great hosts. Our last stop was an hour of laughs and fun with Tom Burseen. Tom is certainly having a great time with his iris!

Tom's garden consists of 2½ acres, most of which are his seedlings. This year that includes some 100 re-selected clumps, 1100 different crosses from 1997, 700 different crosses from 1998, and 600 named varieties. He looks on his place as really not so much a retail operation as a laboratory where new irises are created. Therefore he grows and sells just the newest varieties with nothing older than 1991.

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Argyle Acres.



Begley Gardens.

Begley Gardens.

All Photos: Aitken



Argyle Acres.

Photo: Aitken



(continued from page 35)

Tom says his goals seem to change every two years or so. When he first started some 20 years ago, the plicatas with their unusual colors and markings fascinated him. Then the ruffling and lace of the modern iris influenced his fancy. Next came beard colorings; then gray-green coloring; and always his endless quest for the elusive RED iris. Presently Tom is working on getting something "different". With the demand for space-age and broken color irises, he thinks it makes sense to combine the two. He has also gotten some different things from those unusual "red" crosses over the years.

Much of his "goal-setting" seems to be predicated on what shows up in the seedling patch every year. Maybe that is why his goals change every couple of years! One just never knows what will show up in the seedling patch, and that is what Tom thinks makes pollen daubing so much fun.

As we walked through his weed-free garden, we laughed and truly had fun. All the time Tom was looking for the one that was really different. Maybe that RED really will show up in Tom's garden.

We had such a good time that the whistle blew before we got a chance to have some more chocolate!

Thanks, Tom, for the good time. Many thanks to Region 17, Dallas, garden owners and to all the people that put in the many hours it took to put together this fine convention. Without people like you-all we wouldn't have fun conventions!

Editor's Observations:

Tom's garden consists of acres of seedlings *out back* with a dizzying array of colors, patters and "attachments" (horns, spoons and flounces). We stopped for an occasional "photo op" even though many plants were first year transplant seedlings. 96/177A was a well branched blue amoena with spoons. 96/169A was a yellow with horns and good branching. 96/773 was a potential border bearded in white with nice ruffles.

Near the house we found named varieties. VIZIER (Ghio '98) had formed a nice TB clump accentuated by beautifully formed rich red/brown flowers. Another goodie was Ghio's TB ENOBLE ('99), a smooth red.

The front yard was composed of row on row of Tom's introductions. On this day the star performers were TEXTRONICS (Burseen '98), smooth amethyst with red beards, and INSTANT SMILES ('98), a pleasant two tone gold and tan combination.

The Clark Garden

by Carol Warner, Maryland; and Peter Weixlmann, New York State

One truth of Texas is that everything is bigger, made bigger and done bigger. The Clark Garden is truly a *Texas* garden. The approach through two sets of massive white iron gates is complete with paired original bronze contemporary iris sculptures on each side of each gate which greet garden visitors, and set the stage for the grand scale gardens to come. The 28 acre gardens are just a small portion of the property of Max and Billie Clark, but they are their pride and joy. The Clark Gardens, located near Mineral Wells, Texas, were begun in 1977 and are now a premier botanical park that has just opened to the public. The garden features over 40 individual gardens.

The master plantings of over 1000 guest irises are presented in sunken three-tiered terraces separated by wide brick paths surrounding an English reflecting pool of waterlilies and stacked fountains. Hundreds of running feet of pergolas border this formal walled garden, with 10 foot brick walls hosting numerous wall fountains and basins completing the space. Mixed with the iris were many lovely perennials to help break up the sword-like iris foliage and enhance the total garden effect.

There were many impressive irises. A clump of RUFFLED SKIRTS (Nichols '92) was blooming heavily, sporting standards of white and white falls with purple plicata markings. SANTA (Shoop '98) is basically a creamy orange dreamsicle color dressed up with deep orange shoulders and bright orange beards. Large clumps of border bearded PREPPY (Vaughn '00) and CRANAPPLE (Aitken '95) were excellent examples of the ideal standards for border bearded irises.

An unexpected surprise was found in a corner garden where two large clumps of CAESAR'S BROTHER were blooming beautifully. A sea of rainbow-hued irises had many bright spots including CIRCUS CIRCUS (Sutton '97) with its sharp contrast of purple and white stripes. RUSH CREEK (Worel '99) was one of the brightest with standards of burnt orange and falls of red velvet edged with an orange rim. CELTIC HARP (Stahly '98) was a smooth golden orange with an orange beard. Joe Ghio's SELECT CIRCLE ('97) was a deep plum wine plicata on cream, with a white halo; this marvelous color combination attracted attention from far and near. ALMOST CAMELOT (Mullin '95) was very floriferous in this garden. WISTFUL WISTERIA (Wulf '98) stood out in the MTB class in almost every garden; its purple bitone color produced a lovely garden effect.

The Clarks' spectacular rose collection was in peak bloom with the irises. Rose beds are separated by variety and type; from moss and shrub roses to hybrid tea, in hot oranges, apricot, crimson and lemon—all grown to perfection. Their tennis courts and private gym built in the center of these gardens overlook the surrounding rainbow tapestry of color. The pergolas hold up thousands of climbing rose blossoms that shade the paved walkways within. The intoxicating scents of iris and rose perfumed the air as visitors meandered through the area.

Leaving the guest beds of the traditional walled English garden, the landscaped gardens took on a slightly less formal look. Wide gravel paths led to a system of ponds and waterways which played host to waterfowl and a large collection of water-loving plants. There are over 40 garden areas such as the Heirloom Iris Garden, historic varieties in lovely efflorescence. The Azalea Garden is an assortment of azaleas as understory planting together with stone oriental lanterns and fountains. The Sensory Garden, with wonderful herbs and tactile foliage plants, meanders down a secluded passage. In the Butterfly Island, Meditation Garden, Shade Allee, and Native Bog Area, the visitor can wander for hours or relax in comfortable seating areas. A recently planted canna lily garden turns thought to the promise of bloom and lush growth to come with this collection. Elegant large trees break up and shelter various walkways, and hidden twists and turns lead the visitor by hundreds of classic varieties of iris in glorious bloom throughout the many garden rooms.

Dappled sunlight gives way to the cascading water falls and miniature cataracts of the largest pond, which is home to a pair of trumpeter swans. The swans drift lazily across the peaceful surface of the water, reigning over the spectacular Louisiana iris plantings on the shoreline. The Clarks have created a small dock and covered party pavilion, complete with a hammock for napping away a wistful afternoon.

A leisurely walk around the pond reveals wondrous photo opportunities and even more perennials and wild flowers. Meadows of blue bonnets and poppies, coreopsis, and grasses bow and dance in the Texas breeze.

The most unusual planting in this garden is a two-story mounded garden folly. It is surrounded by a gigantic round bed with mirrored spiral walkways which lead up to the apex area containing a Grecian multi-tiered fountain and viewing area. This vantage point gives the inquisitive visitor a 360 degree view of many of the assorted garden areas. A giant waterfall emanates off one side of the terrace sitting area

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Burseen Garden.



All Photos: Arken

Clark Garden.



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and terminates in yet another series of streams and ponds. An Oriental pavilion, moon bridges over the channels, and many new planting beds with the shrubs and trees will mature into another fantasy setting at the Clark Garden.

Max and Billie Clark's vision of educating all ages in the art and science of beautiful sustainable landscapes is well on its way. From our entrance through the impressive iris gates until our departure, we were treated to Southern hospitality and grandeur.

The Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden

by Gigi Hall, California

The Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden contained one of the master plantings of guest iris. Four huge beds contained over 980 clumps of Tall Bearded (TB) and Spuria Iris. Another large bed contained over 100 more beardless iris—mostly Louisianas. More than a third of the bearded iris and over half of the beardless iris were in full glorious bloom. The challenge was to do the iris justice. I picked out several “most showy clumps”, created a list of those bearded iris with all-around good clumps, created a second list of the bearded cultivars with plenty of bloom this year but too few increase for next year, and then took some quick notes on the beardless iris.

Most showy clumps:

FLEUR DELITE (TB, Mary Dunn '98) has brassy gold flowers that showed no sign of burning despite the mid-80° (f) weather and the intensity of the Dallas sunlight. The 6 inch blooms were displayed around the perimeter of the clump on eight bloom stalks. There were more than ten increase. Bud count varied from six to nine.

TINK (BB, Dr. John [Jack] Durrance '91) creates an Easter basket effect. Flowers are bicolor pastel with lavender standards, golden, slightly recurved falls and orange beards. With eight bloom stalks, it made quite a display. Unfortunately only three fans were left for next year.

PENNY LANE (TB, Larry Lauer '99) a medium-orange with deeper orange beards made a massive clump here and in three other gardens we visited. This performance would result in its winning the Franklin Cook Cup for the most popular iris by an out-of-region hybridizer. Bud count was a consistent seven on all but one of the nine bloom stalks; the last stalk had five. There were more than 18 increase. Flower form is ruffled and blocky with closed standards and wide, squared off falls. The lowest blooms were slightly below, but not totally obscured by, the foliage tips.

Sturdy stalks did not give way to the wind in any of the four gardens were it was in bloom.

MING (IB, Marky Smith '98) is a porcelain-like translucent yellow, lighter in the center of the falls and around the edges. Standards are closely held and roll out at the edges. The lightly ruffled falls look like they were molded over the top of a round form. MING had a very vigorous clump with seventeen bloom stalks and more than fifteen increase. An intermediate bearded, it was past peak but still putting on a good display of bloom.

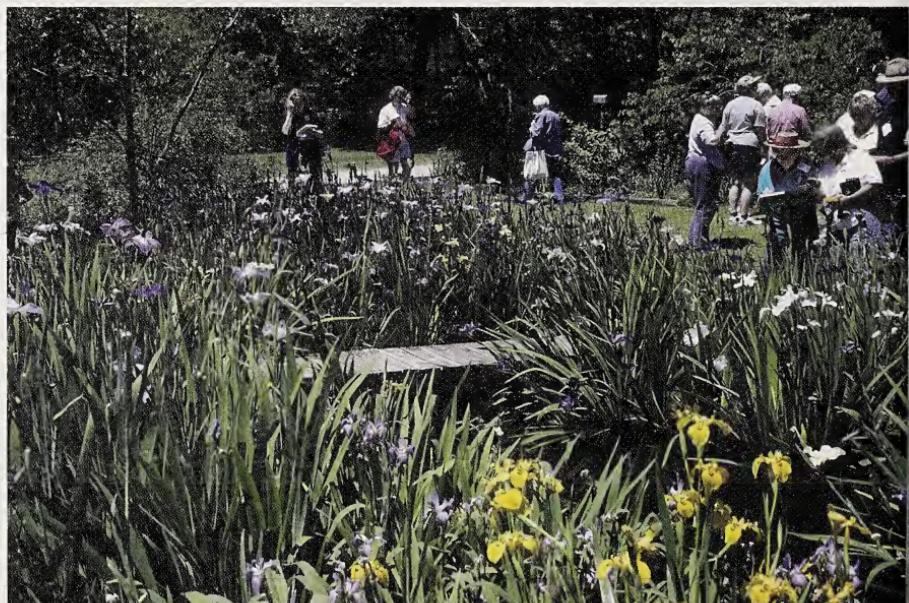
Rick Tasco had a couple of varieties strutting their stuff. DREAM EXPRESS (TB, Tasco '99) has six-inch blooms in rich berry-purple with heavily ruffled and pleated edges held on 41 inch stalks with excellent branching. Beards are berry at the base and burnished orange at the tips. This may prove to be a show bench iris rather than a garden plant. The three bloom stalks each displayed three open blooms with a bud count of seven. There were nine increase. This was not the most vigorous iris, but a standout from across the garden. SUDDEN IMPACT (TB, Tasco '97) has medium sized blooms of orchid-blue with tightly spaced compact ruffles. Bud count was a very consistent seven on exquisitely spaced branches. The Dallas heat of the prior two days had ironed the ruffles out of quite a few flowers but not this feminine beauty. There were seven bloom stalks, eleven increase and straight clean foliage.

MYSTIC LAGOON (Siberian, Anthony and Dorothy Willott '90) made a great clump. Flowers are lavender-blue with a deeper blue infusion around inconspicuous signals. The style arms have slight violet edges, and the same style arms hide plum hafts. Flowers are very compact with rounded lightly waved flaring falls and erect wide oval standards. The inner stalks were above the foliage; the outer stalks were not quite as tall as the foliage in the center of the clump. The foliage was rich, healthy deep blue green—at least two shades of blue deeper than the nearby TB foliage—and quite erect.

Three pinks deserve mention. MAGICAL ENCOUNTER (TB, Schreiner's '99) and Durrance's TB seedling D93-130 are both a deeper shade of pink than most recent introductions. D93-130 is the deeper from across the garden, has a slight lavender cast and pink beards a shade deeper in color than the petals. MAGICAL ENCOUNTER is true pink with soft coral beards. Both have somewhat tailored flowers that are a little narrow at the haft. Both provided lots of flowers this year, but were short on increase for next year. The third pink, LOTUS LAND (TB, Keith Keppel '99) had full, frilly, wide flowers. Falls are wide (almost



Land Garden (top left), TEXTRONICS at Burseen Garden (top right), and Caillet Garden (below).





BONNE FILLE (Boswell '98)



R34-64A (V. Christopherson seedling)



TB 9513 (R. Stetson seedling)

(continued from page 43)

touching at the hafts) and very flared. Standards are slightly mauve and domed. Beards are dusky lavender-pink. LOTUS LAND had the best overall growth of the three pinks with six increase for next year.

Two of my favorites were seedlings: Vincent Christopherson TB seedling R3-64A is a reverse blue amoena with 8-inch wide flowers of good modern form. There were six bloom stalks each 42 to 43 inches tall and eight increase. The foliage was clean and straight—too many of our existing reverse blue amoenas have twisted foliage. I made notes on an even better clump of this same seedling the first day in the Stanley garden. My other favorite seedling was Linda Fan's TB seedling HM-102. This is a subtle deep-orchid plicata with 6½ inch blooms. Bud count varied from six to nine on the eight tall stalks. The foliage was very broad, tall and deep healthy blue-green. The clump had more than fifteen increase.

Good Clumps Overall – Bearded Iris:

To make this list a variety had to be showing even bloom throughout the clump, a good proportion of bloom stalks to remaining fans and full vigorous growth. If this performance proves to be consistent from season to season and garden to garden, these are the "good garden" irises: ASTRA LADY (MTB, Terry Varner, '98) lightly ruffled pure white self with cream beards; BYE BYE BLUES (TB, George Sutton '97) pale reverse blue bitone with self horns or spoons (not consistent in its space age parts); CALM STREAM (TB, Cy Bartlett '98) light lavender-blue amoena of refined form; CANTRELL'S RAIDERS (TB, Jim Hedgecock '99) medium violet with very ruffled flowers; GARDEN BRIDE (TB, Chuck Chapman '98) ruffled white with cream beards; Larry Hughes TB seedling 93-1-A: tall, well branched bicolor with peach pink standards and orchid falls; Larry Hughes TB seedling 93-1-A: space age neglecta with pale blue standards, dark blue-violet falls and long, upturned, dark violet, fringed horns; ICE CREAM TREAT (TB, Rick Ernst '97) peach with light center on the falls; JAN KATZ (IB, Tony and Dorothy Willott '97) peachy-pink bitone; LOCAL COLOR (TB, Keith Keppel '96) deep purple bitone with prominent orange-red beards. This iris was first runner up for the Franklin Cook Cup; Ron Mullin TB seedling 63H: compact flowered blend; Hooker Nichols TB seedling 9718A: large flowered, tailored, light blue; OCELOT (TB, Joe Ghio '98) vibrant bicolor with greyed apricot standards, velvety dark purple falls and burnt orange beards; PROTOCOL (IB, Keith Keppel '96) showy intermediate with white standards flushed gold along the midrib and

bright golden-yellow diamond-dusted falls; Rob Stetson TB seedling TB95KR: cream space age with lovely form and white horns at the end of golden-yellow beards; SUNRISE SEDUCTION (TB, Dave Miller '98) deep bright yellow with white zone around bushy orange-red beards; TOM JOHNSON (TB, Paul Black '96) almost black bitone from the purple side with tangerine beards; WISHFUL WISTERIA (MTB, Opal Wulf '98) wisteria and white with gold beards.

The Beardless—Spuria Iris:

The spurias were not yet in full bloom. Lee Walker (these iris were listed in the convention book under Jim Copeland) had at least nine spuria seedlings in bloom. My favorite three of his—all exhibited strong growth, had four placements and at least five buds—were: Lee Walker spuria seedling 93-2-19, garnet plum standards and narrow garnet-plum edges around intense golden-yellow falls. This also had wide bud placement (branches) for a spuria; Lee Walker spuria seedling 92-12-34A, soft lavender-blue with wide petals; Lee Walker spuria seedling 93-28-57, a lime-yellow with immense 7-inch wide blooms. RIVULETS OF PINK (Spuria, Dave Niswonger '96) is a greyed mauve. You have to use your imagination to extrapolate to pink. The single bloom stalk had five placements and six buds. The clump had four increase. ELFIN SUNSHINE (Spuria, Charles Jenkins '98) is a cutie with 25 inch stalks and petite 4 inch wide flowers in shades of yellow. MISSOURI RAINBOWS (Spuria, Dave Niswonger '97) is a heart breaker. Flowers are clear blue with a large yellow signal on each fall. The clump had seven amazingly consistent stalks, all 36½ to 37½ inches tall, each with four placements. The bad news: only one increase for next year.

The Beardless—Louisiana Iris:

It was a challenge to evaluate and take notes on the Louisiana Iris. In two years the clumps, planted on 18-inch centers and four rows deep, have grown into each other. Therefore, both increase and bloom stalks have intertwined with those of the variety next door. In a private garden you can ask (and hopefully receive) permission of the garden owner to explore and establish the boundaries between clumps. In a public garden you don't touch and you don't climb into the bed. Therefore, my notes on growth and increase are qualitative rather than quantitative. Also, I often could not see the labels on the iris in the inner two rows—some deserving cultivars therefore aren't evaluated either in my notes or in this article.

All around good performance was given by: ACACIA RHUMBA (LA, Heather Pryor '95/'96) a well formed ivory and yellow bitone; CAJUN SUNRISE (LA, Joe Mertzweiller '93) a coppery-red with bright

yellow edges and style arms; Pete DeSantis seedling 86-9: If this is a rosy-wine in color, it exhibited both good quality flowers and good growth; Farron Campbell seedling 97-244-1B, tall, very floriferous red-violet with small lime signals; Farron Campbell seedling 97-337-1A, tall stalks with 5½ inch wide flowers of blue with silvered edges. The style arms were intriguing with plum-violet central stripes and very white edges; GRACE DUHON (LA, Dorman Haymon '88) velvety dark maroon-red with very small signals; WHISPERED PROMISE (LA, Heather Pryor '96/'97) a uniform apricot-tan that ages gracefully.

Three other cultivars with outstanding flowers, exhibited one or more serious faults: GARNET STORM DANCER (LA, Heather Pryor '96/'97) has exquisitely ruffled 3½ inch wide, deep, pure purple velvety flowers. On the average there were four placements and five buds. All the blooms were smashed between the stem and the stem foliage (even the terminal), except on those few stalks where the lower placement or placements have an extended branch; POTPOURRI ROSE (LA, Heather Pryor '97/'98) has 4½ inch blooms of saturated claret-rose with small gold spears for signals. Bronzy toned style arms provide contrast in the center of the flowers. There were three or four flower placements and four or five buds (low bud count). The clump was hollow in the center and the foliage tended to sprawl outward; STOP AND GO (LA, Mary Dunn '96) has nearly circular flowers, 6¾ inches wide in clear rose-pink with lime-ivory style arms. There were four or five placements and five or six buds. The only fault was lack of vigor.

The Beardless Iris—One Other:

I would like to see Jill Copeland's *I. pseudacorus* seedling 1-H under better circumstances. This water and acid soil loving plant was placed in the middle of the same bed as the alkaline soil adapted and draught tolerant tall bearded and spuria iris. There were four bloom stalks and only five increase. The flower is almost pure white with blue-violet signal markings instead of the usual maroon. Again, I hope to see it in the future under better conditions.

Farmers Branch Historical Park

by Ginny Spoon, Virginia

The Farmers Branch Historical Park master iris planting was located among shade trees and lovely grass paths leading to historic buildings, log cabins, schools, a church, and a train depot built in 1877. There were also historic irises planted alongside the church and other buildings to complement the scene. The irises were well tended and interplanted

with other perennials. They all looked very healthy, with no scorch or aphids, as did the irises grown in other shaded and interplanted gardens on the tour. The local gardeners say that the irises flower before the tree leaves are fully open, and the shade protects the rhizomes from baking in the hot Texas summers.

There were many beautiful guest irises blooming in this garden. **AMONG FRIENDS**, an MTB seedling by Varner was a standout. It was violet edged white, with good branching and bud count. Another MTB that I liked was **WISTFUL WISTERIA** (Opal Wulf '98) a violet with golden beards, healthy foliage and good bud count. **HER PINKNESS** (Oscar Schick '99) was a very floriferous lovely pink. Joe Ghio's irises were fabulous, and in this garden **ROMANTIC EVENING** ('96); **REALITY** ('95), a flared and ruffled, rose mauve with burnt orange beards; and **ENNOBLE** ('99) a wide and ruffled black-red with good branching and bud count, were my favorites. Rick Tasco's **RUFFLED GODDESS** ('93) looked great as did his **SUDDEN IMPACT** ('97) which I noted had good proportion and nicely ruffled flowers. **GOLDEN PANTHER** (Tasco '00) was a smooth golden yellow which was both distinctive and beautiful. Others I added to my wish list were: **COLORADOAN** (Magee '96) a buff ground with mulberry plicata markings, and **COLORADO BONANZA** (Magee '96) a ruffled silver infused gold; **FLASHY FANCY** (M. Dunn '96) a violet with a white flash and peppering below gold beards; **BLUE PHARAOH** (Schick '96) a ruffled medium blue with white beards; **RIVER SIREN** (Bob Dunn '97) a flared purple; **COOL LADY** (Leo Barnard '96) yellow standards and rose violet falls edged lighter; and **CANTRELL'S RAIDERS** (Hedgecock '99) a ruffled purple with thick stalks and great branching. Among the spaceagers was a very impressive **IT'S MAGIC** (Maryott '95) with yellow standards, white falls banded yellow, and orange beards ending with horns and flounces. **TANGLED WEB** (Keppel '99) was a uniquely beautiful plicata with a striking color pattern of radiating purple markings over tan ground, and orange and violet beards.

Several seedlings caught my attention, including **D93-130** (Durrance) a very nice pink TB with large bushy pink beards; **JM Unknown** (Hedgecock) a ruffled violet with gold beards tipped lavender; and **6005** (Richard Richards) a flared and ruffled purple with white beards. Also looking good were **JOY JOY JOY** (Ensminger '96), white standards with purple falls and white border, and **HYENASICLE** (K. Kasperek '98) a broken color of apricot with rose splashes on the falls. Larry Lauer's **ORANGE POP** (BB, '98) was a beautiful clump, as was his **PENNY**

LANE ('99) which deservedly won the Franklin Cook Cup. SWANN'S WAY (Mahan '98) a laced and ruffled white self was lovely in bloom, even in the shade. It was a pleasure to see a nice stalk on SKY AND SUN (Spoon '99), a ruffled sky blue with bright golden yellow beards. [See photo, p. 36, July 2000 *Bulletin* - Editor]

Dale Yost, the Garden Liaison, and the staff of the Farmers Branch Historical Park deserve high praise for their excellent work.

***Gardens of Little Elm:
Gardens of Marie Caillet, Shirley Caillet Welch,
Sandy Shaw, and Diane & Robert Land.***

by Ada Godfrey, Massachusetts

It never fails to impress me the way experts do what they do, how they make everything look so perfect; and Marie Caillet, the world's foremost authority on Louisiana irises (LA's) is no exception. The Louisiana irises in her garden were superb.

Farron Campbell was quick to tell that his '98 Louisiana iris ATCHAFAHALAYA, had never grown so tall in his own gardens. It's a beautiful deep violet with yellow signals, and it was almost five feet tall here, with majestic stalks carrying at least 10 to 12 flowering points. We also admired Farron's seedling 98-342/1-A, a tall violet blue, with serrated edges—perhaps the beginning of lace—and blossoms held upright in all flowering points all shown to perfection.

The daintiest and loveliest LA in the garden was the *Iris fulva* introduction, BAYOU BANDIT, co-introduced by Weeks-Campbell in '98. It has typical *I. fulva* dainty blossoms, plus side branching which sometimes happens in *I. fulva*. The color is what sets it apart, though: Dutch chocolate mocha, with tiny deep gold signals etched in deep purple. It had been known to collectors but was considered lost until Weeks noticed the foliage in a ditch by his house and decided to dig it up. He brought the potted plant into a club meeting and the rest is history.

A '96/'97 Louisiana by Heather Pryor, WHISPERED PROMISE, a ruffled orange with deep golden orange signals which stretched to the edges, went onto our list of favorites along with her '98 introduction GINGER FUDGE, a lovely rounded ruffled chestnut orange with gold orange signals on the three falls with at least eight bud positions. We already grow ACACIA RUMBA, the loveliest almost lacy lemon with dainty stems, which is a special favorite of ours because it grows so well in Massachusetts, but we had to stop to admire the gardener's ability to present yet another Louisiana in perfect condition. Mustn't forget Heather Pryor's BUSHFIRE MOON, with oh so many buds.

Ron Betzer's LA seedling 94-1-1 has a great shape and we were enamored of this ruffled chestnut with golden signals in the falls which paled in the strong Texan sun to a golden bronze.

Chuck Chapman's '97 *I. setosa* NORTHERN VALENTINE went on our list too. The coloring is reminiscent of Lorena Reid's ENBEE DEEAYCH, a 40 chromosome Siberian, which is a pretty light navy with white markings, and this setosa had the same light navy blue color with white signals. It was quite spectacular.

For those of you who have never heard of the movie of the same name, I must tell you that Dorman Haymon's LA, GREAT WHITE HOPE, is not white. It is a tall majestic looking deep midnight purple with flagrantly spectacular orange signals outlined in black.

Wandering through these beds of Louisianas leaves you quite unprepared for Marie Caillet's Pond, and that name is the understatement of the century. It was a minnow pond once in her father's time, but she turned it into the loveliest water garden to be seen. As you circle around a beautifully rounded *rosa polysteris* shrub you see clumps of Granger's velvety red violet DELTA PRINCE, with a heaping of waterlilies in the pond. Dick Sloan, Arkansas LA expert, was kind enough to name a few of the different varieties in the pond, from Mertzweiler's bright red-yellow sunburst, CAJUN SUNRISE, to Granger's purple DELTA STAR, as well as a blue virginica tucked away among Dorman Haymon's honey-colored LA PRALINE FESTIVAL. Lavenders and lemons are mixed in with blues, violets, and reds, as well as pink and lavender bicolors, with many different kinds of form, such as pendent falls and recurved falls, cartwheels and overlapping forms: All can be seen in Marie's Pond, a landscaping triumph.

Shirley Caillet Welch and Marie are sisters. In front of Shirley's garden, which is just a few steps across the lawn from Marie's, is a great stand of *I. pallida* with blossoms of soft blue—one of my favorites. There is nothing quite like the gracefulness of the slender blue blossoms hugging the slender stems.

In a bed raised up about two feet, beside the pathway dotted with wild phlox, were Marky Smith's lovely IB MING ('95) with rounded lemon falls and gracefully held standards, with foliage so neat and clean; Tom Magee's LITTLE MERMAID, a '94 IB, had just gone by but showed a lovely clean-looking clump; Hal Stahly's NORTHERN MIST, '96 TB, was gorgeous in full color of white with blue bands around the falls—a must have.

I liked Tom Burseen's TB TABLE TIME ('95), a very pretty purple with its gold-orange beards, as well as Larry Lauer's TB RED RIDER

('98), a red-black trimmed lighter red, that was equally lovely in other convention gardens. I loved the Craigs' dainty MTB WHITE WINE ('98) with its precise branching, the hallmark of aphylla breeding.

Francis Rogers must be very proud of his '99 TB MASAI WARRIOR, which we saw here, too. It's like nothing I've ever seen before, with red ruffled standards over ruffled rounded black falls, veined gold around gold beards. This went right at the top of the favorites list along with Lucille Pinkston's TB OWYHEE DESERT ('96), in golden yellow with its distinctive veining on the falls.

We walked across the lawn down to the lake to visit Sandy Shaw's exquisitely manicured garden. Here we saw Pete DeSantis' TB SCOONCHEE ('97), a magnificent clump with its hints of white in the middle of the plum blossoms. It went right onto our list of favorite irises seen at this convention along with Joe Ghio's OSTENTATIOUS ('98), which lived up to its name in loveliest red maroon on lemon plicata. We saw one last blossom on Jerry Moorhead's TB seedling, 91-35, ruffled violet standards over black maroon falls with orange, almost red, beards. Way to go, Jerry! Would love to see Tom Burseen's '98 TB GAWLEE, in bloom. Here it was one great clump with loads of stalks and buds hinting at the orange blossoms to come. Walter Moores' '97 TB CONFEDERATE ROYALTY had outstanding presence with sturdy stalks and pretty pale blue over dotted white blossoms, and his TB GARNET ETCHING, a 2000 introduction, is a must-have with its gold standards over ruffled round chestnut edged gold falls.

We walked a few hundred yards to Diane and Robert Land's garden, which is influenced by the owners' great love of gardening - it shows! We got off to a slow start in this garden; the wild garden was as lovely as you can see in any commercial seed catalogue illustrating how wild flowers grow. Indian Paintbrush and Texas Blue Bonnets are old hat to Texans, but to this Northerner they were just as entrancing as the wild poppies, daisies and gaillardias growing alongside them.

In the formal garden we saw a gigantic clump of *Iris orientalis*, its slim white and yellow lines highlighted by the backdrop of the dark rail fence. Alongside was the white Louisiana ICE MAGIC, by Taylor, tucked in among Merzweiler's blue yellow JUST HELENE, named for his New England wife, and the coral AUNT SHIRLEY, named for who else! Then there was Taylor's APOLLO'S SONG which fought for look-at-me prominence with a double white clematis.

Hooker Nichols' lovely reblooming TB LADY JULIET ('94), showed off lemon standards over lovely rounded lavender falls, and you just

knew they'd hold up well on those sturdy stalks. For sheer exuberance of growth, I've never seen anything quite like his BOTTLED SUNSHINE ('95) the loveliest of lemon IB's which was past bloom but the clump could not be ignored.

Two stop-you-in-your-tracks seedlings also came from Hooker Nichols. His 9540A had two branches giving 10 - 12 buds of clean white with a hint of blue in the beards; its stalks like tree trunks that you just knew would never fall over! His 9542A which looked as though it could be out of the same stable, with fat rounded falls of the very palest blue and lots of stalks.

Then there was VEGAS WEEKEND (TB, Nichols '00), which was the brightest gold with a white splash around orange gold beards. There were a lot of stalks to this great clump with excellent branching which held at least eight buds. It had it all!

The Stanley Garden

by John Jones & Joanne Prass-Jones, California

As an introductory comment, all the gardens on the tour seemed to be in wonderful condition. To my eye it seemed that the bloomstalks were generally a few inches shorter than I was accustomed to seeing in California gardens or than I saw in Oklahoma City last year. This is not

Photo: Airken



Stanley Garden

meant as a criticism of the Dallas gardeners—far from it! I believe that the unseasonably warm winter in Dallas was the culprit, and that the Dallas gardeners did an excellent job.

The Convention Guidebook said that Joan (pronounced Jo-Ann) and her husband purchased property that included a full-sized rodeo arena, barns, and corral, and left them intact. This description leads one to expect to see stables and horses and the associated paraphernalia that comes with cowboys and rodeos. And it still has the buildings and corrals, but that does not prepare you for the lovely wooded glen that encompasses the long, gently winding approach to the rodeo/garden area. Dappled sunlight and well-established trees dot the woodland cleared of most underbrush, and form a lovely cooling natural environment that isolates you from the surrounding world. Emerging from the tranquillity of the woodland, you enter an area that was once the scene of cowboys battling wild horses and bulls, but is now converted into cleanly landscaped, well-manicured gardens of both their personal irises and the displays developed for the *Destiny Dallas 2000 AIS Convention*.

The Stanleys' plantings consisted of approximately 560 irises from 73 hybridizers. Unfortunately, we had only an hour to spend at this delightful garden, which dictated that I could only record my impressions of a limited number of irises.

The first planting we came to after emerging from the bus was a double bed of Louisiana irises just outside the main corral. Mary Dunn's seedling 235-7 caught my eye immediately. It was a lovely rich mauve red self with a narrow bright yellow slash extending down one-fourth of the falls. It stood with four bloomstalks on a 10 increase clump, each stalk having 4 blooms. Nearby stood DeSantis seedling 83-5A in an amazing 20 increase clump. It was a rich purple, and the style arms were pastel yellow with a rose infusion on the midrib. At the other end of the bed was FONDLY (Dunn '99). Royal purple with wide rounded velvety falls, the standards are slightly lighter, and there is a yellow triangle at the throat. It was a stand of 13 increases and 3 bloomstalks, each with 4 buds.

The Louisiana beds were just outside the old corral which had been converted into islands of tall bearded iris guests. There had been some rain a couple of days before and the clay was very slippery. The Stanleys had put down outdoor carpet on the wide walkways so we could peruse the garden without sliding on our duffs.

There were many, many flowers to look at and only part of an hour to cover as many as I could. Being the relative novice that I am at this sort of thing, I started taking them one-by-one. Two clumps and 10 minutes later I realized my folly, stepped back, asked myself "Which few of these

jump up and grab you", and started going from the best to the best. First of my stops was SANDY BEACH (Lauer '98), which had 15 increases, 4 bloomstalks, and an average of 9 buds, 2 branches. Its lovely blooms were held high above the foliage but proportional to the stalks and clump. It had creamy light yellow standards over light lavender falls, and yellow beards with a hint of lavender at the ends.

Vince Christopherson had a master planting of his seedlings at the Stanley Garden, and I have to say that there were many very high quality flowers in his collection. Of all of them, seedling R3-231CH was visible from everywhere in the garden, a creamy yellow self with a slightly deeper edge. It is a space-ager with highly fringed large yellow flounces and a purple infusion mid flounce, the beards are yellow deepening to orange at the throat, and it had 30 increases, 6 bloomstalks and 6 – 8 buds. Another Christopherson stood out: R3-138A. This TB had 17 increases and 4 bloomstalks, each with 8 blooms and 2 branches. Lightly silver dusted, ruffled and laced, the standards had a light blue ground with a light purple infusion mid-rib, and the falls had the same ground and a broad purple infusion with orange-yellow beards.

Even though it wasn't head and shoulders above all those fantastically grown TBs, Paul Black's IB, SINISTER DESIRE, nonetheless grabs your eye the way a only great IB clump can. Purple black standards had a lighter edge, and the falls were a lighter and redder velvety black, with yellow tipped beards. With well-proportioned blooms and stalks, the clump showed 17 increases and 9 bloomstalks. Each stalk had 2 branches and 5 blooms.

Nearby was another Christopherson TB seedling, R4-169CH. This ruffled and lightly laced pink showed diamond dusting in the bright morning sun. The falls were slightly darker pink with an orange infusion at the hafts. The pink background on this space-ager showed off the bushy tangerine-red beards that were tipped with a long violet frond.

As I was being harassed by the bus captain to get a move on, I had to stop and appraise Fred Kerr's BB, CHRISTIANA BAKER ('99). This beauty had white standards with a pale blue edge that is echoed on the style arms, and the falls have a quarter inch wide dark blue edge on a snow white ground with an occasional short dark blue streak. It is finished by yellow beards tipped white at the ends.

As the bus wound its way out the peaceful shady driveway and the Stanleys waved us on to the next garden, Leo Barnard's MISTER NICE GUY ('97) and Keith Keppel's TANGLED WEB ('99) and FASHIONABLY LATE ('98) lingered in my memory as additional standouts in this garden. 

2000 AIS
Medal Winners



DARK WATERS (T. Aitken), Sass Medal.



APRICOT FROSTY (Niswonger), Knowlton Medal.



Photo: Plank

VAVOOM (Ensminger), Cook-Douglas Medal.

Photo: Aitken



SHEBA'S JEWEL (Shockey), Clarence G. White Medal.

Photo: Aitken



SILENT TEARS (L. Peterson), William Mohr Medal.

PARDNER (Fisher), Williamson-White Medal.



Photo: Aitken

AIS Awards

2000

Dykes Memorial Medal

STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN (Larry Lauer), 90 votes.

runners up:

YAQUINA BLUE (Schreiner's) 82 votes.

ACOMA (T. Magee) 68 votes.

votes **John C. Wister Memorial Medal** (Tall Bearded)

90 MESMERIZER (M. Byers)

82 CELEBRATION SONG (Schreiner's)

62 CLARENCE (L. Zurbrigg)

runners up:

53 SPIRIT WORLD (K. Keppel)

48 CLASSIC LOOK (Schreiner's), 47 BLACK TIE AFFAIR (Schreiner's)

Knowlton Medal (Border Bearded)

120 APRICOT FROSTY (D. Niswonger)

runners up:

116 BABOON BOTTOM (B. Kasperek), 66 TINK (J. Durrance)

Sass Medal (Intermediate Bearded)

96 DARK WATERS (T. Aitken)

runners up:

65 LEMON WHIP (Carol Lankow), 62 MAUI GOLD (T. Aitken)

Williamson-White Medal (Miniature Tall Bearded)

100 PARDNER (K. Fisher)

runners up:

75 OZARK JEWEL (K. Fisher), 62 ROBIN GOODFELLOW (C. Mahan)

Cook-Douglas Medal (SDB)

68 VAVOOM (A. Ensminger)

runners up:

46 TWEETY BIRD (P. Black), 43 STARBABY (M. Smith)

Caparne-Welch Medal (Miniature Dwarf Bearded)

74 BUGSY (B. Hager)

runners up:

40 LITTLE RASCAL (J. & L. Fry), 38 HEY THERE (C. Lankow)

Clarence G. White Medal (Aril—½ or more Aril)

48 SHEBA'S JEWEL (H. Shockey)

runners up:

26 SERAPH'S JEWEL (H. Shockey), 16 JONNYE'S MAGIC (L. Rich)

William Mohr Medal (Aril—¼ to less than ½ Aril)

26 SILENT TEARS (L. Peterson)

runners up:

20 ALADDIN'S TREASURE (D. Pinegar)

18 HOT SPOT (C. Boswell)

Founders of SIGNA Medal (Species)

84 DOTTED LINE (L. Reid)

runners up:

26 CANDY STRIPER (B. Warburton)

22 BETWEEN THE LINES (Schafer/Sacks)

Randolph-Perry Medal (SPEC-X)

76 PHIL EDINGER (B. Hager)

runners up:

29 HOLDEN'S CHILD (S. Tiffney), 19 ASIAN ALLIANCE (J. Witt)

Sydney B. Mitchell Medal (Californicae)

22 PINK CUPID (V. Wood)

runners up:

16 DEEP BLUE SEA (J. Ghio)

14 WESTERN BLUEBIRD (J. Weiler)

Mary Swords DeBaillon Medal (Louisiana)

72 CAJUN SUNRISE (J. Mertzweiller)

runners up:

33 C'EST FANTASTIQUE (M. Dunn)

24 EXTRAORDINAIRE (M. Dunn)

(continued on page 62)



Photo: Wood

2000 AIS Medal Winners

PINK CUPID (V. Wood),
Sydney B. Mitchel Medal (top).

BELLENDEN BLUE (Bauer/Coble),
J.A. Payne Medal (middle).

OVER IN GLORYLAND (Hollingworth),
Morgan-Wood Medal (bottom).



Photo: Coble



Photo: Aitken

2000 AIS Medal Winners



PHIL EDINGER (B. Hager)
SPEC-X Winner of Randolph Perry Medal



ILA REMEMBERED (B. Hager)
Winner of Eric Nies Medal



DOTTED LINE (L. Reid) SPECIES
Winner of FOUNDERS of SIGNA Medal

Morgan-Wood Medal (Siberian)

174 OVER IN GLORYLAND (R. Hollingworth)

runners up:

50 RILL (L. Bellagamba), 46 MOONSILK (H. Stahly)

Eric Nies Medal (Spuria)

45 ILA REMEMBERED (B. Hager)

runners up:

42 SONORAN SUNSET (F. Wickenkamp)

29 HIGHLINE SNOWFLAKE (E. McCown)

J.A. Payne Medal (Japanese)

33 BELLENDER BLUE (A. Hazzard)

runners up:

29 PICOTEE PRINCESS (L. Reid), 27 DIOMEDES (S. Innerst)

Walther Cup (Most HM votes in any category)

143 MIDNIGHT OIL (K. Keppel)

runners up:

112 FOGBOUND (K. Keppel)

100 ORANGE POP (L. Lauer), 88 CORDOBA (J. Ghio)

Award of Merit***Tall Bearded***

142 LOCAL COLOR (K. Keppel)	72 PUMPKIN CHEESECAKE (D. Niswonger)
123 SWINGTOWN (Schreiner's)	71 FASHION DESIGNER (K. Keppel)
111 TOM JOHNSON (P. Black)	67 FATAL ATTRACTION (F. Kerr)
103 NIGHT GAME (K. Keppel)	67 SNEEZY (K. Keppel)
103 SPICED TIGER (B. Kasperek)	66 ZANDRIA (D. Nebeker)
98 ROMANTIC EVENING (J. Ghio)	64 TOTAL RECALL (B. Hager)
96 WISHFUL THINKING (K. Keppel)	61 BLUE SUEDE SHOES (Schreiner's)
95 ARCTIC EXPRESS (J. Gatty)	61 LEMON CHESS (W. Moores)
87 AURA LIGHT (B. Blyth)	61 AROUND MIDNIGHT (Schreiner's)
84 DEBBIE REYNOLDS (O. Schick)	61 DREAMSICLE (Schreiner's)
77 OLD BLACK MAGIC (Schreiner's)	61 KNOCK 'EM DEAD (R. Ernst)
77 SKYWALKER (Schreiner's)	61 PAINT IT BLACK (Schreiner's)
73 GNUS FLASH (B. Kasperek)	61 CROSS CURRENT (K. Keppel)
72 JOY JOY JOY (A. Ensminger)	61 DODGE CITY (L. Lauer)

(AIS Awards, Award of Merit, Tall Bearded, Continued:)

runners up:

50 CAPTAIN'S JOY (Schreiner's) 50 GOOD LOOKING (Schreiner's)
 50 DANCE HALL DOLLY (B. Maryott) 50 HAUTE COUTURE (J. Gatty)
 50 ELAINEALOPE (B. Kasperek) 50 KEVIN'S THEME (F. Kerr)

Border Bearded

86 LITTLE MARY SUNSHINE, 69 VERY VARIED (A. Ensminger)
 (E. Roderick)

runners up:

63 CALICO KITTEN (C. Tompkins) 48 TOMMYKNOCKER (R. Lyons)

Intermediate Bearded

86 PROTOCOL (K. Keppel), 79 SAILOR (M. Smith)
 79 LONDONDERRY (K. Keppel)

runners up:

64 AURORA'S BLUSH (A. & D. Willott) 54 SEASON TICKET (J. Gatty)

Miniatute Tall Bearded

184 REMINISCENCE (C. Mahan) 135 APRICOT DROPS (T. Aitken)
 runners up:

108 MINI WABASH (R. Probst) 92 SNICKERDOODLE (O. Wulf)

Standard Dwarf Bearded

58 IRISH MOSS (B. Jones) 39 ACEY DEUCEY (A. Ensminger)
 51 JAMES BOND (M. Smith) 39 TATTLER (K. Keppel)
 50 EASTER (K. Keppel)

runners up:

37 AUTUMN MAPLE (J. Weiler) 37 CREAM AND PEACHES
 (D. Niswonger)

Miniatute Dwarf Bearded

85 SQUIGGLES (L. Miller) 68 GNUZ SPREAD (B. Kasperek)
 runners up:

41 HOT BUTTONS (T. Aitken) 38 BLINK (L. Miller)

Aril--1/2 or more Aril

41 ENERGIZER (H. Shockey) 20 OMAR'S VALOR (C. Boswell)
 runners up:

15 ENGRAVED INVITATION
 (S. McAllister) 13 RED SANDS (H. Shockey)

Aril--1/4 to less than 1/2 Aril

84 OMAR'S GOLD (C. Boswell) 38 SHE DEVIL (P. Black)
 runners up:

30 DREAM CATCHER (S. McAllister) 11 DESERT CELEBRATION
 (L. Flanagan)

Photo: Carlo Lankow



BUGSY (B.Hager), Caparne-Welch Medal

2000 AIS
Medal Winners

Photo: Scott Aitken



SPICED TIGER (Kasperek), Award of Merit

Photo: Scott Aitken



FOGBOUND (K.Keppel), Walther Cup runner up

Species

35 GORDONVILLE CREAM (D. Niswonger)
runners up:
21 KING CLOVIS (E. & B. Tankesley-Clarke)

Inter-Species

37 ROYAL DOLLY (L. Reid) 36 CASCADE VELVET (J. Halinar)

Californicae

14 MANTRA (J. Ghio)
runners up:
11 BLUE MOMENT (D. Meek) 11 SEA ADMIRAL (V. Wood)

Louisiana

37 PROFESSOR MARTA MARIE (J. Mertzweiller)
runners up:
23 PROFESSOR FRITCHIE (J. Mertzweiller) 22 FAR AND AWAY (M. Dunn)

Siberian

90 SPRINKLES (R. Bauer/J. Coble)
runners up:
59 TRIM THE VELVET (Schafer/Sacks) 83 MESA PEARL (R. Bauer/J. Coble)
56 HARPSWELL SNOWBURST (C. McEwen)

Spuria

54 SUNRISE IN SONORA (F. Wickenkamp)
runners up:
42 ZAMBOANGA (B. Hager) 52 SUNRISE IN MISSOURI (D. Niswonger)
39 MISSOURI LAKES (D. Niswonger)

Japanese

35 EPIMETHEUS (S. Innerst)
runners up:
27 CASCADE SPRING DRESS (L. Reid) 29 PINK DACE (Jill Copeland)
27 FOREIGN INTRIGUE (R. Bauer/J. Coble)

Honorable Mention*Tall Bearded*

143 MIDNIGHT OIL (K. Keppel) 81 WORLD PREMIER (Schreiner's)
112 FOGBOUND (K. Keppel) 81 CELTIC HARP (H. Stahly)
88 CORDOBA (J. Ghio) 75 OSTENTATIOUS (J. Ghio)
82 OCELOT (J. Ghio) 72 MEN IN BLACK (L. Lauer)
81 CHASING RAINBOWS (B. Hager) 70 FASHIONABLY LATE (K. Keppel)

(AIS Awards, Honorable Mention, Tall Bearded, Continued:)

69	ARCTIC FOX (V. Wood)	35	COLOR ME PINK (D. Pinegar)
62	VIZIER (J. Ghio)	35	OZONE ALERT (T. Burseen)
60	FANCY DRESS (K. Keppel)	35	PROSPEROUS VOYAGE (B. Hager)
60	SPLASHACATA (R. Tasco)	34	DIAMOND LIL (L. Lauer)
59	SAN JUAN SILVER (D. Miller)	34	HALO IN BURGUNDY (D. Niswonger)
57	SANTA (G. Shoop)	34	SCOONCHEE (P. DeSantis)
55	BROKEN DREAMS (K. Keppel)	34	WING COMMANDER (G. Sutton)
55	LANAI (J. Ghio)	33	BEHIND CLOSED DOORS (S. Innerst)
54	DOUBLE BUBBLE (J. Ghio)	33	CANADIAN STREAKER (C. Chapman)
50	ANYTHING GOES (B. Hager)	33	COLORADO BONANZA (T. Magee)
50	SMILING FACES (K. Keppel)	33	COUNTRY CHARM (Schreiner's)
49	HI CALYPSO (J. Hoage)	33	HYENASICLE (K. Kasperek)
49	MOBY GRAPE (L. Lauer)	33	JUDY MOGIL (J. McWhirter)
48	HALO IN PEACH (D. Niswonger)	33	MONET'S BLUE (Schreiner's)
48	LOVELY DAWN (K. Keppel)	33	TERRYTON (H. Ames)
47	APOLLO ONE (G. Sutton)	33	TEXTRONICS (T. Burseen)
46	BLUE-EYED SUSAN (L. Lauer)	32	CAPITAL CITY JAZZ (Schreiner's)
46	DEEP DARK SECRET (P. Black)	32	EXACTITUDE (S. Innerst)
46	GLACIER POINT (R. Tasco)	32	SUGAR MAGNOLIA (Schreiner's)
44	GLADYS MY LOVE (A. Ensminger)	32	VANILLA FUDGE (L. Lauer)
44	I'VE GOT RHYTHM (Schreiner's)	31	APRICOT FIZZ (D. Shepard)
44	LARUE BOSWELL (V. Wood)	31	COWABUNGA (T. Burseen)
42	BRUNEAU JASPER (L. Pinkston)	31	FLYING CARPET (P. Black)
42	SPEEDING AGAIN (L. Lauer)	31	HONEY MUSTARD (T. Aitken)
41	LET'S BOOGIE (Schreiner's)	31	ICE CREAM TREAT (R. Ernst)
41	RED RIDER (L. Lauer)	31	QUEEN ANNE'S LACE (W. Maryott)
40	MY PRETTY VALENTINE (R. Ernst)	30	BACK STREET AFFAIR (S. Innerst)
40	NORTHERN MIST (H. Stahly)	30	BUTTERFINGERS (L. Lauer)
39	ZEBRA NIGHT (B. Kasperek)	30	TWO-SIDED COIN (R. Ernst)
38	SHEER ECSTASY (Schreiner's)	29	ANVIL OF DARKNESS (S. Innerst)
38	WATERDRAGON (M. Smith)	29	EDGE OF DARKNESS (M. Dunn)
37	BLUE CHEER (L. Lauer)	29	HEAVEN (J. Ghio)
37	BOLD FASHION (Schreiner's)	29	MADISON COUNTY (J. McWhirter)
36	BLUE CRUSADER (Schreiner's)	29	MISS PIGGY (T. Burseen)
36	NEON COWBOY (H. Bradshaw)	29	STAR QUALITY (J. Ghio)
36	THOR'S LIGHTNING BOLT (W. Dean)		

runners up:

28	BOUDOIR (J. Ghio)	28	LOIS PARRISH (P. Black)
28	DARK PASSION (Schreiner's)	28	LUXOR GOLD (Schreiner's)
28	DECIPHER (J. Ghio)	29	SOUL SISTER (R. Dunn)
28	KIWI CHEESECAKE (D. Niswonger)		

Border Bearded

100 ORANGE POP (L. Lauer)
 43 CASCADING RAINBOW (P. Black) 42 INDIGO DOLL (C. Lankow)
 43 ERIN STROLL (D. Niswonger) 37 CAROUSEL WALTZ (C. Helsley)
 runners up:
 31 LOW PROFILE (J. Ghio) 30 PEACH PARASOL (D. Spoon)

Intermediate Bearded

73 MING (M. Smith) 62 MASKED BANDIT (K. Keppel)
 72 GEISHA (M. Smith) 55 WRANGLER (H. Stahly)
 63 DONEGAL (K. Keppel) 51 SONORAN SANDS (R. Tasco)
 runners up:
 43 CHAMPAGNE ENCORE (T. Aitken) 43 PERSIAN WOOD (A. & D. Willott)

Miniature Tall Bearded

54 PINK BUTTONS (C. Lankow) 50 WISTFUL WISTERIA (O. Wulf)
 51 RICK (B. Wyss)
 runners up:
 39 BLUE CHIP STOCK (P. Black) 39 FLIRTY WHITE SKIRTS (O. Wulf)

Standard Dwarf Bearded

79 MINIDRAGON (M. Smith) 34 ZERO (K. Keppel)
 48 YIPPY SKIPPY (P. Black) 31 ICE ETCHING (P. Black)
 43 RUBY ERUPTION (C. Chapman) 30 FOREVER BLUE (C. Chapman)
 40 PLUM JEWEL (A. & D. Willott) 29 SABRINA'S KISS (A. & D. Willott)
 38 GEMSTONE (B. Hager) 28 COCOA PINK (D. Niswonger)
 38 KITTEN (K. Keppel) 28 ERAMOSA SKIES (C. Chapman)
 35 HOT JAZZ (P. Black) 28 LIME RUFFLES (B. Maryott)
 35 JUST A CROC (B. Kasperek) 28 VINTAGE ROSE (B. Jones)
 runners up:
 26 BEE MUSED (P. Black) 26 NEAR MYTH (T. Aitken)

Miniature Dwarf Bearded

46 DINKY CIRCUS (P. Black) 32 YAK ATTACK (B. Kasperek)
 36 BRAMBLEBERRY (M. Smith)
 runners up:
 26 IVORY FASHION (A. & D. Willott) 23 WEE NOBLE (A. & D. Willott)

Aril— $\frac{1}{4}$ to less than $\frac{1}{2}$ Aril

13 WALKER ROSS (W. Ross)
 12 DESERT FESTIVAL (L. Flanagan)
 runners up:
 8 MOHRIC BUTTERFLY (S. McAllister)

Aril— $\frac{1}{2}$ or more Aril

26 CHOCOLATE MINT (R. Tasco) 13 PURPLE HEART IMPRESSION (L. Danielson)
 13 DARLING WHO KNOWS (L. Danielson) 12 LUELLA DEE (G. F. Wilson)
 runners up:
 11 DESERT MAJESTY (L. Flanagan) 10 CONCERTO GROSSO (H. Mathes)

Species

19 GORDONVILLE WHITE (D. Niswonger)
 18 SUSLIK (J. Burton)
 runners up:
 15 ARCTIC LAVENDER (L. Reid) 13 SYLVANSHINE (C. Mahan/C. Warner)

Inter-Species

44 ENFANT PRODIGE (T. Huber)
 runners up:
 23 PIXIE WON (Jill Copeland)

Californicae

10 EASTER EGG HUNT (J. Ghio) 8 DISTANT NEBULA (V. Wood)
 10 SIERRA AZUL (J. Ghio) 8 STEINBECK COUNTRY (J. Ghio)
 9 MASCOT (J. Ghio)
 runners up:
 7 COMET TRAILS (V. Wood) 7 PHILOSOPHY (J. Ghio)
 7 MARINE MAGIC (L. Belardi) 7 POINT SANTA CRUZ (J. Ghio)

Louisiana

38 HOT AND SPICY (H. Pryor) 19 PRIX D'ELEGANCE (H. Pryor)
 27 JAZZ HOT (H. Pryor) 18 FRENCH QUARTER (M. Dunn)
 24 RED VELVET ELVIS (K. Vaughn) 16 BABS BARNETTE (F. Campbell)
 19 BOY CRAZY (M. Dunn) 16 BERA (J. Mertzweiller)
 19 LONE STAR (F. Campbell) 16 JOIE DE VIVRE (H. Pryor)
 runners up:
 15 JOYFUL CHARM (R. Morgan) 14 NAVAJO CORAL (D. Shepard)
 14 BAYOUT TIGER (K. Strawn)

Siberian

89 BLUEBERRY FAIR (R. Hollingworth) 46 RIVER DANCE (Schafer/Sacks)
 61 WHERE EAGLES DARE (C. Helsley) 33 BLACKBERRY JUBILEE (Schafer/Sacks)
 runners up:
 32 LITTLE BLUE SPARKLER (S. Tiffney) 29 HARPSWELL SNOW (C. McEwen)

Spuria

30 MISSOURI MOONLIGHT (D. Niswonger) 26 STELLA IRENE (C. Jenkins)
 27 ADRIATIC BLUE (D. Niswonger) 24 MISSOURI RAINBOWS (D. Niswonger)
 runners up:
 21 MISSOURI AUTUMN (D. Niswonger)
 20 RIVULETS OF PINK (D. Niswonger)

Japanese

33 SING THE BLUES (L. Reid) 19 ALPINE MAJESTY (T. Aitken)
 28 BLUE SPRITZ (D. Delmez) 19 SAPPHIRE CROWN (R. Bauer/J. Coble)
 23 FROSTED INTRIGUE (R. Bauer/J. Coble) 16 FRACTAL BLUE (L. Reid)
 runners up:
 15 STELLA NIAGARA (A. Rettig) 13 NIAGARA POWER (A. Rettig)
 13 BLUSHING CRIMSON (L. Rich) 13 SILENT THUNDER (R. Bauer/J. Coble)

Iris pumila

How It Changed the World

by Tony and Dorothy Willott, Ohio



N THE BEGINNING THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY CLASSIFIED THE Dwarf Bearded Iris Section as species, forms and hybrids of *iris pumila*, *chamaeiris*, *aphylla*, and other dwarf species; bearded irises up to and including seventeen inches in height. In the nursery trade most dwarf irises were forms of *I. lutescens* formerly known as *I. chamaeiris*, *I. italicica* and *I. olbiensis*, which ranged in height from 6 to 12 inches. This species is considered an allo-tetraploid or amphidiploid because it has two sets of eight chromosomes and two sets of twelve chromosomes, for a total of 40 chromosomes. Crosses with other species which are diploids were often made, but these cultivars were usually sterile. *Chamaeriris* types available in the early 1900s were SAPPHIRE (W. Caparne 1902) and SCHNEEKUPPE (Goos and Koenemann 1910). A 1941 introduction of E. Hodson, PATH OF GOLD, is still being grown. Some of Walter Welch's early efforts were STYLISH (1951) and ORANGE GLINT (1953). One of the last *I. lutescens* cultivars introduced was Henry Sass' BLACK BABY in 1955, which won the Caparne Award in 1962.

Some popular dwarf varieties came from crosses of *I. chamaeiris* with forms of Psammiris, *I. humilis* (*arenaria*, *bloudowii*, *flavissima*) which is a diploid with two sets of eleven chromosomes. Examples of these hybrids are: PROMISE (Paul Cook '52), Caparne Award 1966; BUTTERBALL (Ed Zickler 1956); and GLOW GLEAM (Walter Welch 1959).

Although *I. pumila* had been identified by Linnaeus in 1753, there had been little done with it in Europe, and it did not persist well in English gardens. It was almost unattainable in the United States until Robert Schreiner imported seeds in the 1930s. The variety 'Nana' was named from Crimean seed. 'Carpathia' and 'Sulina' came from Romanian seed. No cultivars were named from Austrian *pumila* seeds, but selected seedlings were provided to Paul Cook who bred them with the tall bearded plicata SAN FRANCISCO (Wm. Mohr 1927; Dykes Medal 1927) and his own tall bearded seedlings. Probably the most widely used of his work has been seedling 1546, a cross of AZUREA (a 36 chromosome collected natural hybrid) by a *pumila*, and that seedling crossed again by a *pumila*.

Cook 1546 is listed in the parentage of many dwarf irises, including Walter Welch's APRIL MORN (1952), another prolific parent.

Another widely used *pumila* is the form purported to have been collected on the island of Crete and registered as CRETICA. It has been unique in that it allows the tall bearded plicata pattern to appear in first generation hybrids. A cross of TB plicata MARIPOSA MIA by CRETICA resulted in DALE DENNIS, white SDB with orchid markings. The MDB KNICK KNACK came from CRETICA X ARCADIA BUTTERCUP (TB yellow).

During the late 1940s Paul Cook, who lived in northern Indiana, exchanged pollen with Geddes Douglas in Tennessee so they could make tall bearded-*pumila* reciprocal crosses. Cook was very pleased with the results of crossing his 10942 TB by blue and yellow *pumilas* and introduced three of them in 1951: FAIRY FLAX, GREEN SPOT and BARIA. Douglas introduced seventeen SDB varieties from these crosses between 1953 and 1961. The first eight were introduced in 1953, including LILLIPUT (HELEN McGREGOR x blue *pumila*) for which he coined the term "Lilliput" to describe the type of iris. Douglas introduced seven more in 1954, including TINKERBELL and SMALL WONDER (sibs to LILLIPUT) and MERRY MAKER (MINNIE COLQUITT X violet *pumila*). LITTLE ROSY WINGS (ORANGE GLOW X yellow *pumila*) was introduced in 1958 and RED ROCKETTE (from two seedlings) in 1961. These results were made possible by advancements in tetraploid tall bearded iris quality at the same time *I. pumila* became available.

Within a few years AIS recognized these hybrids as a separate class between the miniature dwarfs and the intermediates. The class was named "Standard Dwarf Bearded" and contained iris between 10 and 15 inches in height. The height limits were later expanded to cover irises from 8 inches to, but not including, 16 inches. Once started, there was no stopping the rush of hybridizers to try their hands at the new SDB class. In fact, the SDB class is now second only to the tall bearded class in the number of cultivars registered each year. The more adventuresome, such as Walter Welch and Earl Roberts, continued to experiment with *I. pumila* and other species, but many hybridizers just crossed existing SDBs with each other. As the best cultivars were selected and further bred with each other, there has been a great improvement in form, substance, and color in both the MDB and SDB classes. This progression is shown in some of the award winners over the years and the newest cultivars. ☙

[This article appeared in the *Illinois Irisarian*, Volume xxxix #2, Fall 1999, and is reprinted with their permission.]

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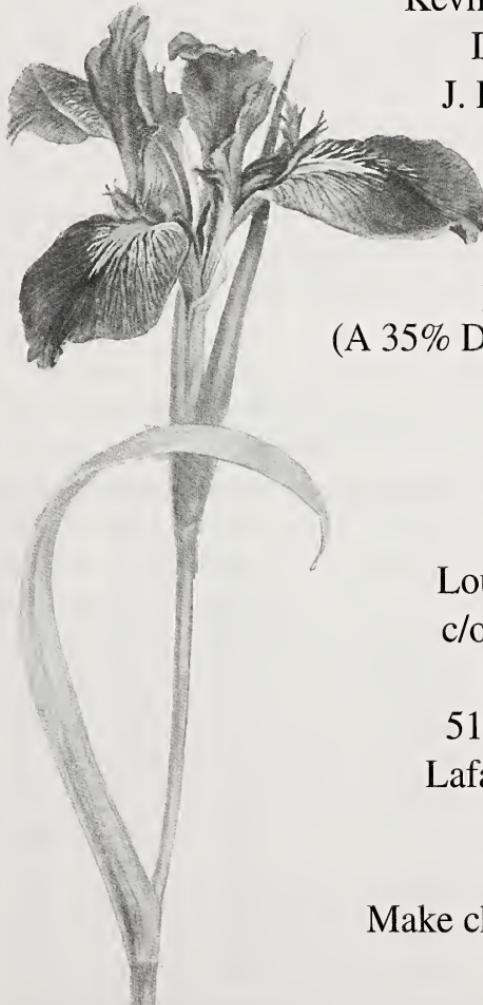
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Favorite Guest Irises

2000 AIS National Convention

PRESIDENT'S CUP: (awarded to the iris originating *within* host region with the largest number of votes)

VEGAS WEEKEND, Hooker Nichols, TB 2000, 34 votes

Runners-Up:

TEXTRONICS, Tom Burseen, TB 1998; 30 votes

MARTHELLA, Hooker Nichols, TB 1994, 27 votes

TIM CLARK, Hooker Nichols, TB 1998, 26 votes

FRANKLIN COOK MEMORIAL CUP: (awarded to the iris originating *outside* host region with the largest number of votes)

PENNY LANE, Larry Lauer, TB 1999, 77 votes

Runners-up:

LOCAL COLOR, Keith Keppel, TB 1996, 21 votes

CELTIC HARP, Hal Stahly, TB 1998, 20 votes

OWYHEE DESERT, Lucille Pinkston, TB 1996, 18 votes

FAVORITE GUEST IRISES:

Following are the Favorite Guest Irises voted by conventioneers at the 2000 AIS National Convention in Dallas, Texas

Name	Hybridizer	Year	Type	Votes
PENNY LANE	Lauer	1999	TB	128
LOCAL COLOR	Keppel	1996	TB	121
OWYHEE DESERT	Pinkston	1996	TB	95
TANGLED WEB	Keppel	1999	TB	89
ARCTIC EXPRESS	Gatty	1996	TB	84
ENNOBLE	Ghio	1999	TB	76
ROMANTIC EVENING	Ghio	1996	TB	74
GARNET STORM DANCER	Pryor	1997	LA	73
CELTIC HARP	Stahly	1998	TB	70
BOYSENBERRY BUTTERCUP	Lauer	1997	TB	69
MEN IN BLACK	Lauer	1998	TB	69
ANYTHING GOES	Hager	1998	TB	68
ORANGE POP	Lauer	1998	BB	68
CRANAPPLE	Aitken	1995	BB	64
WISTFUL WISTERIA	Wulf	1998	MTB	63

Dr. Loomis Memorial Iris Trial Gardens

2000 Awards

by Russ Eacker, Colorado

ONCE AGAIN THE IRISES AT THE TRIAL GARDENS SHOWED off their wonderful color. It is always such a surprise to see what has been sent by the hybridizers and how they are going to do at our altitude. These gardens are at the base of Pikes Peak in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Irises sent by hybridizers are tested over a three year period. Judging is in accordance with the American Iris Society Judges Handbook, and by certified judges. Those irises receiving the highest point scores are awarded the Dr. Loomis Award. The following irises were awarded for the year 2000.

3rd Year Awards:

Tall Bearded: SANDY BEACH (Lauer) was the Dr. Loomis Award winner, followed by HIGH IMPACT (Sutton) and CELTIC SKIES (Sutton).

Standard Dwarf Bearded: WITH CASTANETS (Richie) won the Dr. Loomis award, followed by RADIOACTIVE (Dyer), DOT COM (B. Jones) and SOPHISTIKITTY (Pinegar).

Miniature Dwarf Bearded: went to TICKLE ME (Chapman)

Intermediate Bearded: KATIE'S CHOICE (Rogers) garnered the most votes, then seedling 93ID (Magee) and DEAN DAY SMITH (Moller).

2nd Year Awards

Intermediate Bearded: HACKMATACK (Innerst) was the Dr. Loomis Award winner, followed by SUGAR SNAPS (Pinegar).

Aril Bred: Seedling AB 95 AI (Stetson), winner of the Dr. Loomis Award.

In other classes top points went to: TB ENCHANTED MESA (Magee), BB seedling 95-LP-IBB (Jorgensen), and MTB seedling 93-721 (Chapman)

The support of hybridizers makes the high altitude trial gardens a success. If you are interested in having your irises shown and judged in the Dr. Loomis Memorial Iris Trial Gardens, contact Carol or Russ Eacker, 2513 Lelaray St., Colorado Springs, CO 80909. 

AIS

Contributions & Gifts

Memorial Gifts

Wanda Blankenship (TX) G
 Texoma Iris Society (TX) G
Mrs. Evelyn Branum (AL)
 Mr & Mrs. Thomas A. Gilliam (AL) G
Ray Cantwell (OK)
 Norman Area Iris Society (OK) G
 N. Oklahoma Iris Society (OK) G
Laura Lee Cox (AR)
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Nita dePerini (CO)
 AIS Region 20 (CO) G
Milton Grubb (WA)
 Pierce County Iris Society (WA) L
Eldon Hale (WA)
 Mildred Grow (WA) L
 So. California Iris Society EC/CYA
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 Blackhawk Valley Iris Society(IL) CYA
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Ina Warren (TX)
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Honorial Gifts

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Gifts

Clarke Cosgrove Youth Award
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Mail to: Jeanne Clay Plank, Secretary of Donations
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*** Note change of address to send donations*

Be sure to identify clearly on a separate paper

1. The recipient of the memorial or honor
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In Memoriam:

Neil Bertinot (Louisiana)
Merle H. Daling (Washington State)
Lois Kuntz (Washington State)
Joe P. Norton (Louisiana)
Margaret Parker (Washington State)
Robert Schreiner (Oregon)
Patricia Stagg (Maryland)

Rent Slide Sets from the American Iris Society

AIS Slide Sets available for 1999:

The Newest in Irises: 1993 – 1998 Introductions. Mostly TBs, but contains other types.

Recent Award Winners: HM and AM Winners, 1992 – 1997

The Popularity Poll: Temporarily unavailable.

Types other than Tall Bearded: Bearded and beardless, arranged in blooming sequence.

Reliables: Mostly past award winners of various types—especially suited for newer iris societies and garden clubs.

1994 Portland Iris Convention

1995 York Iris Convention

Iris Trivia: This is a small set of slides and questions that can be used for a fun and informative meeting. (Use of all questions and slides takes at least one hour.)

To Order: Requests for slides should be made well in advance of requested date, preferably six to eight weeks. If optional, specify alternate sets and/or dates. Clearly *print* name and mailing address to whom slides are to be sent. Rental fee is \$10.00 per set, payable to AIS. Only one set allowed for any request date. Slide sets are to be returned next day after viewing by *Priority Mail*. Note: Affiliates are entitled to one free TB set per year. Send check with request to:

Bill Mull	Phone: (757) 858-5521
7112 Fox's Lair Ct	Email: <AISslides@aol.com>
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Section Slides Available:

The various Sections of AIS also have slide sets available for rent. These feature irises of each respective group. Rental fee is \$5.00 per set, unless noted otherwise. Requests for these slide sets should be submitted as follows:

Arils and Arilbreds: Order from Scott Jordan, 3500 Avenida Charada NW, Albuquerque, NM 87107. Rental fee \$7.50. Check to Aril Society International.

Dwarf: Dorothy Willott, 26231 Shaker Blvd., Beachwood, OH 44122-7111. Check to Dwarf Iris Society. Rental fee \$7.50.

Historic Iris Preservation Society (HIPS): Contact Joan Cooper, 212 West Country Rd. C, St. Paul, MN 55113. Rental fee \$7.50. Check to HIPS.

Japanese: Order from John Coble, 9823 E. Michigan Ave., Galesburg, MI 49053. Check to Japanese Iris Society.

Louisiana: Order from Ann Justice, 202 Briargate Cr, Lafayette LA 70503. Check to Society for Louisiana Irises. Rental fee is \$10.00.

Medians: Contact Terry Aitken, 608 NW 119th St, Vancouver WA 98685. \$10 check to MIS.

Pacific Coast Native: Contact Damon Hill, 4613 Maddock Rd, Sebastopol, CA 95472-9768. Rental fee \$7.50 to SPCNI.

Rebloomers: Contact Olive Rice-Waters, 1914 Napa Ave, Berkley, CA 94707. Check to Reblooming Iris Society. Rental fee is \$7.50.

Siberians: Order from Robert Hollingworth, 124 Sherwood Rd E, Williamston, MI 48895. Check to Society for Siberian Irises.

Species: Several sets available. Order from Helga Andrews, 11 Maple Ave, Sudbury MA 01776. Check to SIGNA.

Spurias: To order, contact Patricia Brooks, 102 Jefferson Lane, Ladson, SC 29456. Check to Spuria Iris Society.

2000 INTRODUCTION

ANNE MARILYN; Sdlg 96-2J, TB, 40", M. S. purple lightly veined white at base; style arms light purple, paler inside; F. purple, darkening toward edge; beard light purple, yellow in throat; ruffled, pronounced sweet fragrance. Unknown purple self x Jewelled Starlight.



Bennett Jones (left) receives Caparne-Welch Medal, Terry Aitken (center) receives Cook-Douglas Medal, and Riley Probst receives Williamson-White Medal from Clarence Mahan (right).

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We are now using an all-electronic setup with our new printer. As a result, we can no longer simply paste ads on paper. All ads submitted on paper will be scanned. If you have graphic images or logos as part of your ad, it would be best if you send them on a disk, or email them directly to Scott Aitken at <scott@scottpix.com> (payment must still be made through advertising editor).

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found in the back of each *Bulletin*. Placement is roughly alphabetical.

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Payment is due with ad copy. Ads due: July 15 (Oct. issue), October 15 (Jan. issue), January 15 (Apr. issue), April 15 (Jul. issue). Send ad and payment (payable to AIS) to:

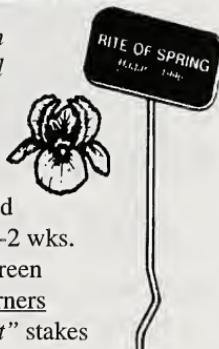
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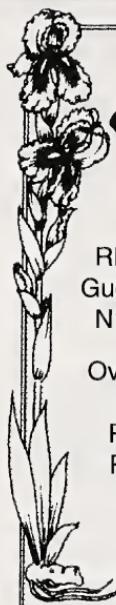
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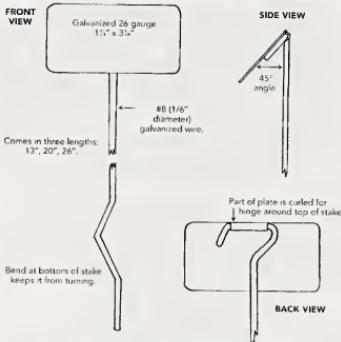
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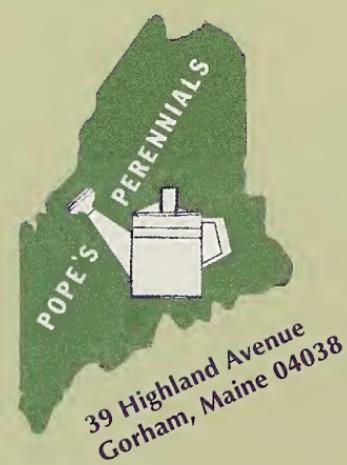
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AIS Bulletin

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President's Message

by Clarence Mahan, Virginia

“THANK YOU” CARD RECENTLY ARRIVED AT MY HOME FROM Lois Warburton, Bee Warburton’s daughter. Lois wishes to thank AIS and its members for establishing the Warburton Medal to commemorate her mother and for giving her one of the medals to display in her home.

The idea, and much of the work, leading to the creation of the Warburton Medal came from Dave Niswonger. When he proposed establishing the Warburton Medal, Dave told the Board of Directors that it would be an award similar to the Foster Memorial Plaque, the award established by the British Iris Society to honor individuals, regardless of nationality, for major accomplishments relating to the genus Iris. I am very pleased to tell you that the latest recipient of the Foster Memorial Plaque is Dave Niswonger. Congratulations, Dave!

The Board of Directors named Thomas and Anne Blanco White of Great Britain to receive this year’s Warburton Medal. Many of you will be familiar with Anne’s many contributions to the world of irises, one of the most significant being her work leading to the publication of *A Guide to Species Irises*. Thomas Blanco White translated Dr. Rodionenko’s classic work *The Genus Iris L.* from Russian into English and thus enabled its publication by the British Iris Society. Anyone who has read *The Genus Iris L.* will readily recognize the difficulty of this translating achievement and its significance in expanding our knowledge of the genus.

One of the goals I asked you to support when I assumed the presidency of AIS was to adopt policies and activities that provide greater empathy and support for iris hybridizers and nurseries. Thus, I am pleased to tell you that the Board of Directors has acted to cut the price of color advertisements in the *Bulletin* by 30%. You will find the new advertisement rates elsewhere in this *Bulletin*. This action was possible because advancements in technology have made reproducing color pictures so much easier and less expensive than the old color separation methodology. This action should benefit all of us by facilitating more color pictures in the *Bulletin*.



Clarence Mahan, AIS President

Speaking of color pictures, our new Slides Chairman Bill Mull has made remarkable progress in developing and organizing the slides program. Bill needs some help, folks. He needs more slides of irises introduced in 2000 and help in obtaining slides of past award winners and irises ranking in the Symposium. Iris breeders should jump at the chance to send slides of their new introductions to Bill, since inclusion of a good slide in an AIS slide set will generate greater sales of the iris. I urge all of our members who are good at taking iris pictures to contact Bill Mull

and offer him help in making our AIS slide sets the best we can.

Our new Membership Secretary is Anner Whitehead of Richmond, Virginia. Anner and Marilyn Harlow kept me informed as the project of transferring files, equipment and software progressed. We are fortunate to have someone as talented as Anner take on the Membership Secretary's duties. Anner will also continue to head our New Historical Iris Chronicles Project.

The transfer of the Membership Secretary's workload has given me a new appreciation for Marilyn Harlow's outstanding performance in that job. It is indeed fitting that the AIS Board has voted to give Marilyn Harlow the Distinguished Service Medal. Well done, Marilyn! I would also like to congratulate Glenn Corlew and Lewis and Adele Lawyer upon their being named to receive the Distinguished Service Medal. Each honoree has made major contributions to AIS over several decades.

A personal word of thanks goes to Carryl Meyer and Vince Lewonski for their work at the fall meeting of the AIS Board. Carryl stepped forward to act as our Recording Secretary, and Vince got our proceedings on tape.

I would also like to mention that Carryl Meyer is also our Silent Auction Chairman. Carryl's address and phone number are in the *Bulletin*. Don't delay! Write her, call her, or send her an email and tell her what iris artifacts, books, or iris rhizomes you will be donating to our silent auction this year at the convention.

It is a great honor to be able to write this first presidential message of the new millennium. You might be interested to know that the year 2001 is the first year of the 21st century because of a decision by the

sixth-century monk Dionysius Exiguus (literally Dennis the Short). Dionysius, instructed by Pope John I to prepare a proper chronology for the Church, opted to make the first year after what he reckoned was the year Christ was born 1 A.D. instead of 0 A.D. Because a millennium must by definition contain one thousand years, the year 2000 has to be the last year of the 20th century. You might also be interested in knowing that Dionysius Exiguus erred in his calculation of the year of Christ's birth, because Jesus had to have been born in the year 4 B.C. or earlier. We know this because there is indisputable evidence that Herod died in 4 B.C. I learned this bit of trivia by reading Stephen Jay Gould's book *Dinosaur in a Haystack*, which is, like all of Gould's works, highly entertaining and informative.

The penultimate paragraph of this message has little or nothing to do with irises, but then neither does my wishing you "Happy New Millennium!" ☺

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Editor's Message

by Terry Aitken, Washington State

AM PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE NEW OFFICIAL STATUS OF Bruce Filardi as Assistant Editor. This status is long overdue as work on the *Bulletin* has been going much more smoothly for at least the past year with Bruce's able assistance. Both Bruce and my wife Barbara (my sometimes less than silent partner in this endeavor) have toiled for many hundreds of hours to make the *Bulletin* what it is today.

During the year, son Scott gets many inquiries from people wishing to submit photos via email. Generally these are not of high enough resolution to match the quality that we are using in the *Bulletin*. He will explain the technical requirements in the following article.



Terry Aitken, Editor

We also get inquiries about photography. Most of the photographs in the *Bulletin* are Glenn Corlew's, Bob Plank's, and mine. We would recommend using Ektrachrome 100 EPN film for best color accuracy. Also, the fine grain allows us to enlarge the images without losing too much detail. This film is only available at professional camera shops and is stored under refrigeration.

Some of the new Fuji films are challenging the quality of the Kodak EPN film. I am less impressed with Astia film (too much color saturation) than with Provia 100 Fujichrome which seems more color accurate. It is usually easier to find at camera shops.

The technology involved in the production of color in the *Bulletin* continues to evolve rapidly and dramatically. A direct benefit to the membership occurs with this issue with a drop in the cost of color advertising by 30%. See the new color advertising rates on page 127.

Scanning of color photos has been offered free of charge for the past year. Also, for the first time, we are offering one half page color to provide more flexibility for our advertisers. Are we "user friendly" yet?

The economic status of AIS (or any business) is evaluated based on cash flow (income versus outgo) and the value of assets, both in the bank and in inventory. I recently asked Nancy Pocklington to attach a dollar value to those items in inventory at the Storefront. A realistic value of marketable products was set at just under \$200,000. The Storefront sells between \$20,000 - \$40,000 of merchandise per year. This, combined with a positive cash flow, indicates that AIS is financially healthy as we go into 2001. ☺

Region 8 "Northern Tour"

June 8 - 10, 2001

Region 8 is holding its first ever meeting and garden tours in Minneapolis, Minnesota, June 8th through 10th. Five tour gardens are well supplied with guest irises from 26 hybridizers. What are you doing after your iris bloom? Come to Minnesota!

For further information contact:

Jack Worel	Phone: (763) 420-4876 (eves)
10930 Holly Lane	Email: <jworel@aol.com>
Osseo, MN 55369.	

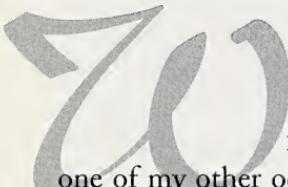
To register, send check for \$40.00 (\$50.00 after May 1), payable to Iris Society of Minnesota, to treasurer:

Wally Doehne	Phone: (651) 436-2126
14252 15th Street S.	
Afton MN 55001.	

Digital Photography

For Iris Enthusiasts

by Scott Aitken, Washington State



WHEN I AM NOT WORKING AS A GRAPHIC DESIGNER, one of my other occupations is as a photographer. Naturally, working in both these fields, I have a fascination for digital photography. As digital cameras and ink jet printers have become less expensive, and more people purchase them, I get asked more often about the feasibility of using digital images for the *Bulletin* or other uses (such as creating catalogs). Often enough, in fact, that we thought the information would be of general interest to many of you.

The most important issue, and most confusing, is *resolution*. Before I talk about cameras, I must introduce a few new vocabulary words if you are unfamiliar with the world of digital imagery. Most of you know that if you look really really closely at your TV or computer monitor, you see little *dots* of light. Similarly, if you look really really closely at the *Bulletin* or other printed magazine, you will see tiny *dots* of ink. In the graphic design business, image resolution is described as *dpi* (dots per inch).

One thing that causes a lot of confusion is that not everything you look at has the same number of dots per inch. Televisions (and images captured using camcorders) display roughly 45 dpi. Most computer monitors display 72 dpi – 75 dpi. Color images printed in the *Bulletin* are 300 dpi—vastly sharper than a computer screen. So you can see that just because something looks good on your TV or computer, doesn't mean that it will look acceptable in print.

So, what does this all have to do with digital cameras? Digital cameras come in a wide variety of resolutions. At this point in time, a vast majority of consumer digital cameras (costing less than \$500) are relatively low resolution, and are designed to be used by people wanting digital pictures for Internet web sites, or to email to friends, or for printing on inexpensive color ink jet printers. Most of these cameras take perfectly acceptable images for those purposes. For an image to look good on a web site, however, it need only be 75 dpi, the resolution of your computer monitor. Few of these cameras were designed for people to take photos with high enough resolution for use in a magazine or good quality catalog.

It gets more confusing now, and we need to add another vocabulary word. Pixel. If you magnify a digital image, a pixel is a square of color. If you look at the specifications for a digital camera, it will make no mention of dpi (which is very annoying to those of us in the graphic design business). It tells you the pixel dimension of the captured image. For example, it may say "1152 x 864 pixels". Sounds like a lot until you do the math. If you print this image at 300 dpi, it would be about $3\frac{3}{4}$ " x $2\frac{3}{4}$ " on paper, even though it may fill your entire computer screen.

So, if you want a digital camera to take iris pictures for a web site, or to email to friends, or to make flyers on an inkjet printer, any inexpensive camera should be fine. If you want to use it for images at resolutions high enough for a catalog, the *Bulletin*, or other professional printed material, you need at least a 2 megapixel camera, or preferably one of the newer 3 megapixel cameras. Most of these are currently selling for \$800 - \$1000. If you want fine art prints larger than 5" x 7", you are better off sticking with a conventional film camera. There are professional digital cameras for commercial studio work, but they are extremely expensive, and usually have to be cabled directly to your computer.

There are other considerations besides resolution, of course. Color accuracy and depth are important if you want your irises to look the same color in print as in the field. Some cameras shift the color spectrum. For example, Olympus digital cameras from a few years ago had a noticeable blue cast (recent ones have corrected this). Color depth has to do with highlights and shadows. With some cameras the highlights go stark white, or there is no detail in shadow areas. In articles I have studied in a variety of camera and computer magazines, the recent digital cameras from Nikon and Kodak consistently score highest for color accuracy and color depth. My personal favorite of the moment is the Nikon Coolpix 990.

Image compression is available on nearly all cameras. The more pixels in a digital image, the larger the file size. Most digital cameras have some method to compress the file so it can store more pictures in its memory. JPEG is a compression format favored, largely because it is widely used on the Internet. Unfortunately, compression comes at the cost of image quality. If you want the best quality image for use in the *Bulletin* or a catalog, turn the image compression off, or choose the setting which stores the least number of images in the camera's memory.

Finally, digital camera technology and prices are changing rapidly. Expect prices to fall by 30% or more in a year. Or see substantially higher resolutions at the same prices. You should be resigned to the fact that any digital camera you buy will be eclipsed by newer technology within a couple years. 

Youth Views

AIS Foundation Essay Topic

by Jean Morris, Missouri

“M

Y VISION FOR IRISES OF THE FUTURE.” THIS IS the Youth Essay Contest topic for 2001. The contest is sponsored by the AIS Foundation and offers two \$100 cash prizes this year; one for youths age 12 and under and the other for those 13 through 18 years of age. Essays should be written in 500 words or less and mailed by March 15 to Claire Honkanen, P.O. Box 235, Isle of Palms, SC 29451-0235.

Dust off your crystal ball, let your imagination run wild and list the changes you predict in irises of the future. What will they look like? When will they bloom? Where will they grow? Will they be healthier? How will improvements come about? Who will work to make irises better?

To begin writing, choose a few ideas from your list and write a paragraph about each one. This will be the middle of your essay. Next, insert an introductory paragraph to start your essay and add a conclusion paragraph at the end. You might think of this as the “Oreo” style of essay writing—middle, start, finish.

For your final version, neatly recopy or type your essay after making corrections to spelling and grammar. The writing must be your own but you may have an adult read your essay for technical accuracy. We ask parents to resist the urge to interfere with their young person’s creative efforts.

This year’s essay topic affords youth members the opportunity to dream a little, set some goals, plan future hybridizing efforts, think about taking your place in the new century of the iris world. Today’s youth members are tomorrow’s iris growers, hybridizers and leaders of the American Iris Society. Tell us what you expect to see in the irises of the future. You may be \$100 richer in 2001. Good luck to all.

Reminder

Nominations for the Clarke Cosgrove Memorial Award for Youth Achievement are due by January 31, so please mail them right away to Jean E. Morris, 682 Huntley Heights Dr., Ballwin, MO 63021. Information and rules may be found in “Youth Views” of the October 2000 *AIS Bulletin*. Please encourage your favorite youth member by writing a nomination today. ☺

International News

by George & Margaret Sutton, California
and Bruce Filardi, Oregon



George and Margaret Sutton

From the British Iris Society Autumn Newsletter

Chelsea 2000: The BIS had a very successful stand at the Chelsea Flower Show thanks to the hard work of a small committee and the willingness of members to man the stand for the week in spite of the cold wet May weather. It was lovely to talk to members of the public from all over the world, and thirty five new

BIS members were recruited. The stand was beautifully arranged with many types of irises thanks to a few kind growers, and many packets of seeds and literature of all types were sold.

Dykes Medal: The Awards and Judging Committee have recommended the iris *PERFECT VISION* for the [British]Dykes Medal for 2000. This tetraploid *sibirica* was raised by Mr. C Bartlett.

From Sergey Loktev, Russia

For the year 2000 the TB High Award went to TASHKENT (Volfovich-Moler '92). Winners of Awards of Merit were IKAR (Volfovich-Moler '92), MUKADDAM (Muska '94) and ASKIYA (Volfovich-Moler '92). Honorable Mentions went to SATURABICO (Muska '98), MYS HORN (Muska '98), GUSARSKAYA BALLADA (Loktev '96), DZHIGHT (Koroliov '98), NOCHNOYE RANDEVU (Loktev '98) and WHITE SILENCE (Muska '98). High Commendations were awarded to ALIONKA and RASSVET, both Koroliov seedlings.

Winners of the Russian TB Symposium were as follows: COPATONIC, 28 votes; BEFORE THE STORM 22; SILVERADO 21; BEVERLY SILLS, EDITH WOLFORD, SUPREME SULTAN 19; HONKY TONK BLUES 18; ENGLISH CHARM 16,

MESMERIZER, CELEBRATION SONG, HELLO DARKNESS 15; VIGILANTE 13, CONJURATION and DUSKY CHALLENGER both with 11 votes

Winners of the Median Symposium were: JAZZAMATAZZ (SDB) 13 votes; BROWN LASSO (BB) 12; BATIK (BB) 10; CURACAO (BB), LEMON POP (IB) 9; FRUIT COCKTAIL (IB) 8; BALLET LESSON(SDB), ZING ME (IB) 7; BEE'S KNEES (SDB), BROADWAY BABY (IB), LUNAR FROST (IB) and APRICOT FROSTY (BB) 6 votes each.

From the Bulletin of the Iris Society of Southern Africa, by Allan Tait

Many years have passed since the founding of the Iris Society of Southern Africa in 1953... The different classes of membership included: life membership, ordinary membership, privileged membership, affiliates, and members of affiliated clubs... The past eighty years or so have seen tremendous improvements in iris culture. In South Africa we are extremely proud of Mr. Graeme Morgan of Sterkstroom (Eastern Cape) who has been hybridizing irises for many years, producing irises with great vigor and growth in our hot dry climate. He now specializes in the so-called space-agers... The question arises as to where the hybridizers are, since very few are still active.

Over the years the iris society has adapted and so too has its structure changed... Currently the society offers the following subscription categories: life membership, ordinary membership, and affiliate membership... In the years gone by members were far more active than today. This was evident from the correspondence received and the many shows held, countrywide, annually. Now only one iris show is held annually in Johannesburg. Membership has also dwindled over the years... In this new millennium it may be time for many of us to reflect on the hectic lifestyles that we have adopted, and perhaps slow down and allow ourselves more time for leisurely activities, such as gardening.

From the Bulletin of the New Zealand Iris Society

At the annual meeting of the South Canterbury group (Ed.: in the South Island) we had a wide variety of irises on display, *I. variegata* var. *reginae*, PALTEC, *I. aphylla* (tall form,), GRACCHUS, AMIGO, and a collection of TBs, both rebloomers and recent imports. An interesting selection for March (Ed.: corresponds to our September)... Van and Peter Berry picked a huge bucket full of TB rebloomers on 25 May, the

best of which was CITY LIGHTS. Blooms of LACY SNOWFLAKE, AUTUMN CIRCUS, and JENNIFER REBECCA are also gave much pleasure.

Marilyn Fleming, Southland, reports a burgundy colored sport on her plant of HOLDEN CLOUGH... The sport appeared for the first time in the last bloom season. And from the Anniversary Issue: Originally, New Zealand irises were trialled through the Australian testing system. When New Zealand established its own Test Gardens the British Iris Society offered to make available a Dykes medal to each country in alternate years. New Zealand's first Dykes Medal was awarded in 1992 to Frances Love for her Siberian EMMA RIPEKA.

There are three test gardens to cater as well as possible for the different soil and weather conditions prevailing here, one South Island garden and two in the North Island.

The Directors' task is to accept up to three rhizomes or iris plants from New Zealand breeders and grow them for three years without any special cultural treatment. The Director needs to have the space available and conditions to accommodate any iris variety. A register is kept and each entry is grown under a Test Garden number. The Director also arranges for them to be judged by a senior judge in the second and third years.

As irises entered in the Test Gardens become the property of the Society they are sold at Conventions at the end of their trial period to help defray the costs of running the Test Gardens. ☺

THE SOONER STATE IRIS SOCIETY
is pleased to announce the Twenty-First Annual
POLLEN DAUBER'S SEMINAR featuring
CHUCK CHAPMAN of Guelph, Ontario, Canada
On Hybridizing Bearded Irises
March 23rd—24th, 2001

Mr. Chapman will speak to the Society and guests on Friday, March 23rd, following a 6:30 pm pot luck dinner. The Pollen Dauber's Session will be from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm on Saturday, March 24th. Pot luck dinner and seminar will take place at the Will Rogers Garden Center, 3400 NW 36th St., Oklahoma City, OK (405)943-0827 (corner of I-44 and NW 36th St.). For questions or assistance, contact: Greer Holland, 4521 NE 55th St., Oklahoma City OK 73121, (405)424-6634. Seminar fee is \$20 per person, (pay at door).

York 2001

AIS Convention Preview

by Jane Bury, Pennsylvania



NDY AND CAROL WARNER'S GARDEN WAS ON THE AIS Convention tour in 1991, but in the last ten years it has been almost completely renovated and expanded. The formal garden has a Chippendale fence and pergola and the guest irises are planted in six different geometrical gardens with the rest of the formal garden displaying Carol's collection of newer Siberian irises and seedlings.

The rock garden includes many unusual plants and dwarf conifers. The original island gardens and borders contain a vast number of perennials, ornamental trees and shrubs, and specialty collections of peonies, rhododendron and hosta incorporated into the iris plantings. The commercial plantings at her mother's property next door. Five very large areas are planted primarily in rows of Siberian and Japanese irises. These areas are spectacular during bloom season. The Warner's garden is only about nine miles from the convention hotel in the heart of the rolling hunt country.

Bruce Hornstein is a retired veterinarian who is pursuing a life long dream of becoming a full time rural gardener. His farm, Sans Souci (literally translated as Care Free) sits on 13 rolling acres of field, woods, and wet lands set idyllically in Monkton, the center of Maryland's horse country. The garden hosts guest irises, some 100 different cultivars of Siberian iris, more than 300 Japanese iris, spurias, a collection of English Dykes and, through the generosity of Dick Sparling, some 300 different MTB's. These iris plantings are complemented by decorative grasses, hostas, peonies, bog plants, and a grove of Dawn Redwoods (Metasequoia).

Travelling north to the hills of Dover in Southeastern Pennsylvania, Sterling Innerst's gardens are surrounded by mature woodlands including many evergreens. Entering the driveway from the east you will see the first year seedling field, and two long beds containing over four hundred guest bearded irises that survived severe drought conditions during 1999, followed by 2000, with rainfall well above normal with as much as six

inches of rain at a time. Near the stone home built in 1753 is the bed containing nearly sixty beardless guest irises—mostly Siberians. Past the house, you will see the hosta plantings along the driveway and behind the barn. At the west end of the driveway are the personal collection of irises and the selected seedling field, with many perennials planted throughout the area.

Orchard Country Iris Garden operated by Harold and Gayle Griffie is located near Biglerville, Pennsylvania, in the heart of the orchard country. Peach and pear orchards surround the garden where nearly 2000 varieties of irises are grown on a one acre plot. Bearded irises are in the majority, but sizable collections of Siberian and Japanese irises are also grown. Water gardening is also an interest and a landscaped pond area is incorporated in the iris display garden area. Harold, a mathematics teacher and technology coordinator for a local school district, and Gayle, a retired elementary principal, have been growing irises for over 25 years. Harold's interests are with the modern irises while Gayle is interested in growing and collecting the historical irises that her mother and aunt grew. This garden was a guest garden for the 1995 convention and the Griffies and their two garden guard cats, Amos and Rudy, welcome you back for another visit.

Friendship Gardens is 22 acres of iris hybridizer's gardens operated by Joan and Ken Roberts near Gettysburg, PA. The pond is a favorite place for herons, mallards, and Canadian geese. In the distance there is a collection of laevigatas, Siberians, versicolors, and pseudacorus. Toward the farmhouse is the AIS guest bed which also includes some historic irises in the center circle with seedlings and recent introductions from several hybridizers. The "Rainbow Bed" of English, French and American Dykes Medal winners were inherited from Rosalie Figge. The reblooming garden includes an assortment of perennials and specimen trees. Toward the stream there is a shaded area with ferns, hostas, and other shade loving perennials. Joan's Secret Garden is splendid with Japanese, Siberian, and a few Louisiana irises. Behind the house are the hybridizer's beds, growing seedlings from Lloyd Zurbrigg, John Weiler, Clarence Mahan, and Sterling Innerst. You may want to hike to the six acre patch of irises lined out alphabetically for hybridizing and filling catalog orders.

Jason and Pat Leader spent 23 years gardening around the world while Jason was in the U. S. Army. Iris growing in Virginia, Indiana, and Hawaii are testament to this. Their love for irises was spawned by Jason's dad and mother. Their garden is on a hillside overlooking a beautiful

valley in Southern Pennsylvania. In addition to the convention iris, you will find a large collection of their first love, MTB's.

Terry and Susan Marquart started their garden by rescuing Terry's mother's irises after she passed away. Dorothea had produced several good horned irises in her hybridizing program of which "Pink Diabolo" is both Terry's and Susan's favorite. Both are excited to share their hillside garden with conventioneers and are looking forward to sharing their excitement about their favorite flower, the iris, of course. The Marquart garden is located near Carlisle, PA.

Linda Golembieski's fascination with iris began in 1986. Her love of the flower expanded into gardens that will delight you with a combination of iris and perennials artistically designed and located throughout the country property. The shade gardens are beautifully filled with hosta and lots of other shade plants. Her other gardening interests include roses, fruit trees, and anything unusual.

Many of you who were at the 1995 convention may recognize Tim Jared's beautiful gardens as his property was previously owned by Sterling Innerst. Tim has continued to grow irises adding his own personal and creative touches to the gardens.

Pete and Jane Bury, like Linda Golembieski and Tim Jared, are newcomers to the iris garden tour. Their property is located at the end of a country lane in Glenville, PA. Mature spruce trees provide the backdrop for the azalea, lily, daylily, and perennial gardens. Their interest in tall bearded iris began a few years ago after visiting the gardens of Owings and Doris Rebert who generously shared rhizomes with them. Their recent interest in Louisiana iris developed while visiting the beautiful gardens on tour at the Dallas convention. New additions include several of Heather Pryor's Louisiana iris introductions for 2000 that seem to be acclimating quite well after being relocated halfway around the world.

All the gardeners are looking forward to sharing their gardens and welcoming the convention visitors in May 2001. 

American Iris Society Convention

May 22 - 26, 2001

Presented by Susquehanna Iris Society, York, Pennsylvania

Convention Headquarters:

Marriott Hunt Valley Inn 245 Shawan Road Hunt Valley, Maryland 21031 (410) 785-7000	Room Rates: \$99.00 Single/Double plus tax \$124.00 Triple plus tax \$146.00 Quad (4 people/2 beds) + tax
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Please reserve your room directly with the hotel. Cut off date for blocked rooms is April 15, 2001 (mention American Iris Society Convention).

Convention Registration Fees:

Postmarked by March 15, 2001:	\$198.00
Postmarked from March 16 through April 15, 2001:	\$225.00
Postmarked after April 16, 2001:	\$250.00
Youth Registration (age 18 and under):	\$150.00

Partial registration rates will be available for advance registrations only. No registrations will be accepted for the Welcoming Dinner or Awards Banquet only after April 15. If it is necessary to cancel reservations, please notify registrar. Every effort will be made to provide 100% refund, but late cancellations may receive less than full reimbursement. No refunds after May 1.

Visa and MasterCard will be accepted for registration fees. Please include credit card number, name as it appears on card, expiration date and phone number.

Section meetings and the Welcoming Dinner will be held on Wednesday, May 23, 2001. Garden tours will be Thursday May 24 - Saturday May 26. The Awards Banquet will be held on Saturday, May 26.

Registration deadline is May 1, 2001. Please list names of registrants exactly as you want them on your name badges. Include name, full address, telephone number and email, if applicable. Make checks payable to Susquehanna Iris Society, and send to:

Jay Holcomb, Registrar 824 Brookside Drive Boalsburg, PA 16827	Phone: (814) 466-6114 Email: <ejh3@psu.edu>
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2001 Silent Auction

York, Pennsylvania

We are holding the Silent Auction again at the AIS Convention in Pennsylvania! That means we need your contributions to ensure the success that we have enjoyed in the past three years.

The Silent Auction has become a popular part of our conventions, and it's a fun way to raise funds for the support of AIS. Many people have iris treasures they could donate, and it is a great way for hybridizers to get their introductions seen in different parts of the country.

What we are looking for are iris artifacts, iris books and new or recent iris introductions. However, if you would like to donate any other irises that are rare or unusual, that would work just fine. Just drop us a note and let us know what you have.

This year's convention is scheduled for late May (May 22 – 26) so please let us know what you can donate no later than May 1, so we can prepare the bid sheets. Send a short note to my address below, give me a call, or email works too. I look forward to hearing from you.

Carryl Meyer
2532 Highwood Drive
Missoula, MT 59803
Phone (406) 251-5800
Email <carrylm@bigsky.net>

Convention Handbooks

The new Convention Handbooks are available at no cost from the Storefront.

Median Odyssey 2001

May 18 – 20, 2001

The *Median Odyssey 2001* will feature eight gardens in Massachusetts. In addition we have planned an extra day (Sunday, May 20) as a Dwarf Iris Mini-convention.

Friday's gardens include: Lynn and Peter Markham of Lunenburg, John and Lucy Burton in South Hamilton, Connie Hall in Bedford, and Jan Sacks and Marty Schafer in Carlisle. Saturday's gardens include: Martha Hutcheson, in Weston, Alice Schaefer, in Newton, Stephanie Markham and partner Larry Wilson, and in neighboring Foxborough, the gardens of Bill and Ada Godfrey. Sunday morning will see buses taking conventioneers to down east Maine for the mini Dwarf Iris convention.

Median Odyssey Registration:

\$90.00 (after March 18, 2001, it will be \$110) It will be limited to 188 people, with no partial registrations. This includes two continental breakfasts, two lunches, and two dinners.

Dwarf Iris Mini-Convention Registration:

\$25.00, which includes Sunday breakfast. This registration fee is contingent upon a full bus, the first 47 people will be guaranteed a place.

Make checks (for either or both) payable to The Iris Society of Massachusetts and mail to:

Marcia Connolly, Registrar
6 Green Way
Chelmsford, MA 01824-4809

Convention Headquarters:

Crown Plaza Boston-Natick
1360 Worcester Rd
Natick MA 01760
(800) 227-6963

Room Rates: \$126.00 plus tax.
Up to four people in a room.

Reserve your room directly with the hotel using the name Median Odyssey Block. Cut off date for these rooms is April 17, 2001.

Transportation information will be provided in your registration confirmation. For further information, check *The Medianite*, Summer/Fall 2000, pages 16 and 17.

Request for Japanese Guest Irises

Society for Japanese Irises Convention, June 8-9, 2002

Westbay Iris Society in cooperation with members of other San Francisco Bay area societies will host the 2002 Convention of the Society for Japanese Irises. We invite hybridizers to send guest rhizomes of recent introduction and seedlings of JAPANESE irises under consideration for introduction. Please observe the following guidelines:

1. Up to three rhizomes of each cultivar should be shipped. One rhizome of each guest iris will be planted in the master planting at Guadalupe Gardens in San Jose. The remaining rhizomes will be distributed between other convention gardens.
2. Guest irises will be accepted from February 13 through May 16, 2001.
3. All Official Guest irises must be shipped to:

Gigi Hall
40417 Citrus Drive
Fremont, CA 94538

4. Each division should be clearly labeled with the variety or seedling number. In addition the following information should be clearly marked for each plant on a separate packing list:

- Hybridizer's name, address (both required) and email address (optional)
- Name or seedling number for the cultivar
- Description including number of falls, height, color and bloom time (early, midseason, late)
- Year of Introduction (if introduced).

5. If a guest seedling sent under number is named prior to the convention, it will be the responsibility of the hybridizer or introducer to notify the Guest Iris Chairman not later than the first of February 2002.

6. A receipt will be mailed to all contributors. Approximately two months before the convention, contributors will be asked for instructions regarding disposition of the guest plants. The disposition will be requested prior to the convention date to give the hybridizers and introducers the option of contributing plants from the guest clumps to the SJI auction held as part of the 2002 convention. Failure to reply to the request for disposition information by June 15, 2002 will be interpreted as permission to destroy all stock. All official guest plants which are to be returned will be shipped postpaid, except to foreign addresses.

7. The Convention Committee and the owners of the tour gardens will follow the Code of Ethics as printed in the AIS Convention Handbook.

8. The Guest Iris Committee will not be responsible for losses beyond its control, and only irises received through the Guest Iris Chairman will be listed in the Convention booklet as official guest irises.

9. It is not recommended that irises other than Japanese be sent for convention viewing. This is because the Japanese Iris (JI) bloom truly finishes the season in our climate. There is little or no overlap with other types of beardless irises.

Future Conventions

Updated Schedule

Year	City	Headquarters	Dates	Chairman
2001	York, PA	Marriott Hunt Valley Inn 245 Shawan Road Hunt Valley, MD 21031 (410) 785-7000	21-26 May	Jason A. Leader 9328 Forest Road Glen Rock, PA 17327 (717) 428-2068
2002	Memphis, TN	Memphis Marriott 2625 Thousand Oaks Blvd Memphis, TN 38118 (901) 362-6200	24-29 April	Elke Longsworth 1530 McKnight Loop Mason, TN 38049
2003	Virginia		16-21 May	Clarence Mahan 7311 Churchill Road McLean, VA 22101 (703) 893-8526
2004	Fresno, CA			Kitty Loberg, 1900 Mt. View Lane Redwood Valley, CA 95470
2005	St. Louis, MO		May	Riley Probst 418 N. Van Buren St. Louis, MO 63122 (314) 822-2485
2006	Portland, OR		22-27 May	John W. Ludi 35071 SE Hwy 211 Boring, OR 97009 (503) 668-9230
2007	Oklahoma City, OK			F. W. McVicker Route 3, Box 10 Kingfisher, OK 73750 (405) 374-3115

Scheduled Fall Board Meetings:

2001	High Point, NC	2-4 Nov	Dr. E. Roy Epperson 1115 Delk Drive High Point, NC 27262 (336) 883-9677
2002	Fort Worth, TX	1-3 Nov	Joe Spears 910 Pioneer Circle Argyle, TX 76226 (940) 464-3680
2003	Tucson, AZ	7-9 Nov	Kathy Chilton
2004	Santa Rosa, CA	5-7 Nov	Alice V. Kemper

Rebloom

Median Iris Involving Iris Aphylla

by Jim Craig, Oregon

REPORTS THAT REBLOOMING SEEDLINGS HAD RESULTED FROM some crosses with APHYLLA WINE RED (Warburton for Van Nes '70) had nothing to do with our interest in using the species to develop 48 chromosome median iris. I viewed rebloom as a nuisance because it tended to interfere with transplanting. Furthermore, encouraging rebloom requires more irrigation than we wanted to do in some of the arid locations where we were gardening.

Time changes many things, especially when many are telling you what a great treat you are missing. It also has become abundantly clear that APHYLLA WINE RED and at least three other aphylla cultivars carry the genetic code for rebloom.

Our first reblooming seedling to get favorable attention was C21T1, a white SDB which we shared with some others interested in rebloom. Its performance wasn't good enough to warrant introduction. Because its pedigree included EN ROUTE (Hager '66) three times, that may be the source of the tendency to rebloom.

The MTB RAVE REVIEW (Craig '92) will rebloom sparsely if pampered a bit. Kept watered and fertilized, TIE DYED TYKE (Craig '93), an IB, will bloom intermittently all summer. The IB SAILING FREE (Craig '93) has been reported to rebloom in the Southeastern USA, but it has never done so here at home. All contain aphylla heritage.

In 2001, we plan to introduce SMASH which is (PAYOFF X RAVE REVIEW). It is a stronger Fall rebloomer than its pollen parent. It has produced at least one really strong Fall blooming yellow MTB when crossed to a tiny yellow seedling. When crossed back to RAVE REVIEW, approximately ten percent of the seedlings show a tendency to rebloom.

At the species level, some questions can be answered with certainty. MINNOW (Craig '00) is a consistent, if sparse, June rebloomer. Therefore, both parents (*I. aphylla* 61-56A X APHYLLA WINE RED) must contain the genetic tendency to rebloom. Neither does so here. In 1998, an Internet acquaintance sent us an unnamed *I. aphylla* clone that reblooms with abandon. Here in Oregon, it blooms in April, June, August, and October. It continues to increase too! In June I made reciprocal crosses with it and MINNOW. Each clone set pods, and I collected seeds in August. Guess I'm hooked! 

Experiences with Rebloomers

by Larry Lauer, California

1

MADE MY FIRST CROSS IN 1985, JUST A SHOT IN THE DARK, BEVERLY SILLS X BLACK FLAG. I had no idea what to expect and didn't know anything about fall bloomers. Late the following year during a trip to Melrose Gardens, Ben Hager introduced me to something he was working on, rebloomers. This intrigued me.

My first success with a summer rebloomer was not done with that in mind. The cross, UP PERISCOPE X MARINE LUSTER, was just something I thought might be a good match. The result, SPEED LIMIT, turned out to be a most reliable rebloomer and my interest increased.

I began using more rebloomers in my hybridizing. It was a very slow process. SPEED LIMIT X STELLAR LIGHTS produced SPEEDING AGAIN, a light purple with not only vigorous growth but the added bonus of summer and fall bloom. Good rebloomers are few and far between. Using SPEED LIMIT again with KATHLEEN KAY NELSON, I got BLUE JAY WAY, a beautifully formed blue, but no rebloom.

Following are some crosses that produced good rebloom results:

RECURRING DELIGHT: ((EDITH WOLFORD x BREAKERS) X MOTHER EARTH) RECURRENT EVENT & BABY BELLE: (CHUBBY CHEEKS X BOUNTIFUL HARVEST)

GOOD DAY SUNSHINE: (EGGNOG X RABBIT'S FOOT)

VIOLET TURNER: (SWEET REFLECTION X SWEETER THAN WINE)

RECURRING FANTASY & OCTOBER SKY: (SPEEDING AGAIN X WATERWORLD).

And this year's CRUISE TO AUTUMN: (CANTINA X (CHICKASAW SUE x ROLE MODEL)), a cinnamon brown with lavender.

As for the future, I am trying to bring in rebloomers from the eastern zones to cross with my lines to try to get vigorous reliable rebloomers for cooler climates. ☺

Progenitors

In Modern Reblooming Irises

by Walter Moores, Mississippi

SEVERY CLASS OF IRISES HAS PARENTS THAT HAVE BEEN USED over and over again by hybridizers to perpetuate a certain trait. Thus, a progenitor is an originator of a line of descent. The term progenitor was incorporated into iris literature by Paul Cook, whose PROGENITOR produced a line of dominant amoenas that continues to the present.

Many times the progenitor itself is not a finished product, yet it yields improvements and carries the desired trait when matched with another, more refined parent. Such is the case with Cook's PROGENITOR. With reblooming irises, the progenitor passes the reblooming gene to its progeny.

In keeping with the title of this article, I am suggesting that the irises discussed below are reblooming progenitors. This information comes from the Online Iris Register, which is an electronic version of the 1989 Iris Checklist. For irises registered after 1989, I thank John I. Jones, AIS Electronics Chairman, who supplied the raw electronic data from the 1999 Iris Checklist, which is not yet available in print or electronic format. It would have been virtually impossible to have written this article without the searching and sorting capabilities offered by electronic means.

I consider the following ten irises to be modern reblooming progenitors.

I DO (Zurbrigg, '74): Although a parent of IMMORTALITY, I DO seems to be the preferred progenitor over its child in producing reblooming progeny. With a total of twenty-seven registrations, sixteen of which were registered in the 1990's, twenty-two reblooming irises have been produced by using I DO as a parent. BONUS MAMA, BROTHER CARL, IMMORTALITY, and PEARLS OF AUTUMN are well-respected offspring.

VANITY (Hager, '75): VANITY has been used as a parent 154 times as recorded in the 1989 and 1999 Checklists. Though a sometimes

rebloomer in mild climates, it has helped to produce DOCTOR ALAN, JENNIFER REBECCA, OCTOBER SPLENDOR, and PINK ATTRACTION, with a total of nine reliable rebloomers to its credit.

CORN HARVEST (Wyatt, '77): When introduced, CORN HARVEST was projected to be a great progenitor for reblooming irises because of its ability to rebloom in almost any climate. It would possibly replace the older Percy Brown, Tom Craig, and Lloyd Zurbrigg irises that had been used for reblooming parents. Such was not the case. Since its introduction twenty-three years ago, there have been only six registrations showing it as a parent, five being rebloomers. HARVEST OF MEMORIES and MISTY LADY, though late to rebloom, come from CORN HARVEST and are worthy performers if the weather cooperates.

VICTORIA FALLS (Schreiner, '77): Another sporadic rebloomer, VICTORIA FALLS has been used eighty-seven times as parent during the 1980's and 1990's, with ten registered as rebloomers. It has given rebloom in BETHANY CLAIRE, SCORPIO STAR, and SUGAR BLUES.

VIOLET MIRACLE (Zurbrigg, '79): This is the only reblooming progenitor which has a score of one hundred percent. All seventeen registered cultivars from it have been registered as rebloomers. It has produced two Award of Merit winners in ROSALIE FIGGE and SUKY. Other outstanding irises from it are CANTINA, CONSTANT COMPANION, and MARIPOSA SKIES.

EARL OF ESSEX (Zurbrigg, '80): Twenty-nine registrations include twenty-four listed as rebloomers. Ben Hager introduced AUTUMN CIRCUS, BOUNTIFUL HARVEST, and HEMSTITCHED from the same cross using EARL OF ESSEX. Late registrations from it include AUTUMN TRYST, LOVELY FRAN, and MARIPOSA AUTUMN. Rebloom tends to be early from this progenitor.

IMMORTALITY (Zurbrigg, '82): IMMORTALITY has not been the prolific progenitor it was expected to be. Only sixteen registrations appear, but with thirteen of them listed as rebloomers, it gets high marks in percentages. SUNNY DISPOSITION is probably its best child. Some newer things from it are BRIDGE IN TIME, FROST ECHO, and RETURNING CHAMELEON.

SOAP OPERA (Ghio, '82): Another rebloomer for mild, coastal climates, it has produced sporadic rebloom elsewhere. With twenty-seven

registrations, it has produced seven reblooming children, BANANA CREAM, BUCKWHEAT, and SAXON being widely grown. Using SOAP OPERA with cold climate rebloomers seems to be the way most hybridizers utilize it.

BEST BET (Schreiner, '88): Reported to rebloom in Oregon, its home, BEST BET has been difficult elsewhere, but with fifteen registrations, it has produced five rebloomers. AMERICA'S TEAM, CEE CEE, MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM, and TWO DIFFERENT WORLDS are recent introductions.

MOTHER EARTH (Hager, '88): Since introduction, MOTHER EARTH has been used an amazing twenty-seven times as a parent, eleven of which are rebloomers. DUO DANDY, RECURRING DREAM, and TOTAL RECALL are three good examples of eleven rebloomers MOTHER EARTH has produced. Like BEST BET, it has had some difficulty adjusting to climates different from its birthplace, but when it is happy, it can make a lovely display.

I considered BROADWAY and FEED BACK, but they did not make the top ten, so they are the runners-up. I also noted in the search that some of the progeny listed were parented by a pairing of progenitors. This could lead to an article in itself.

Two future progenitors are Clarence Mahan's UNCHAINED MELODY and Earl Hall's MATRIX. The reblooming genes in these cultivars are such that with careful selection of the other parent, almost all colors and patterns in irises can be produced in flowers of quality that rebloom. ☺

In Memoriam:

<i>David Colman (Ohio)</i>	<i>Donald E. Nutter (Pennsylvania)</i>
<i>B. Leroy (Roy) Davidson (Washington)</i>	<i>Mrs. Duncan (Joy) Peters (Virginia)</i>
<i>Wilford Jones (Ohio)</i>	<i>Mrs. Harry E. Spence (Kansas)</i>
<i>Sharon A. Lipiec (Virginia)</i>	<i>Ed F. Teague (South Carolina)</i>
<i>Everett Long (Colorado)</i>	<i>Dr. Edward Valentine (New York)</i>
<i>Eleanor McCown (California)</i>	

The Search for Constant Bloom

by Don and Ginny Spoon, Virginia

In *The Medianite* 41(1), SUMMER/FALL 2000, PAGE 15, YOUTH member Stephanie Rust of Washington, MO, answers the question "What do you foresee ahead in irises and the iris world? What's exciting?" "I see rebloomers that rebloom whenever rhizomes are mature enough to do so, in all climates. They will be of easy culture and occur in all bearded and at least some beardless classes. I think that constant blooming is the only reason roses are more popular than irises, and I think their days are numbered!!!"

The ultimate and most challenging goal of hybridizing irises is to obtain bloom and rebloom that is all season, continuous, or constant bloom; in his catalog, Terry Aitken calls it "Our Quest for Everblooming Irises." In nature, flower formation in irises coincides with the spring to early summer when there is an abundance of insect pollinators, with each species remaining in bloom for about two weeks. Modern hybrid irises are pollinated by humans, and our presence in the garden varies only with our comfort level, that is avoiding extremes of cold and heat. The available seasonal period for "constant" bloom varies with the climatic zone and individual cultural procedures. You could define constant bloomers as those that bloom every month of the bloom season; however, for this to occur would require extraordinary efforts of watering and fertilizing when necessary. The actual bloom season for constant bloomers in zone 6 and 7 would be from April to November, skipping only the five weeks of midsummer heat and drought from mid June to late July. To accomplish this, the foliage and developing stalks have to be able to withstand mild freezes, and for constant bloomers they need, and must be able to thrive with, some watering during periods of summer heat and drought. In zones 3 to 5, the bloom season for constant bloomers would be shorter and the skipped midsummer hot season shortened or eliminated. In frost-free zones 8 and 9, the constant bloom season could be year round, if provided sufficient water and fertilizer when needed. In the past, zone 10 was considered unsuitable for iris bloom because of the lack of sufficient winter cooling needed for

vernification, but this does not apply to the best reblooming cultivars, such as FEED BACK, which are yearly reported to bloom and rebloom in zone 10. To bloom profusely and continuously requires efficient heavy feeders that are vigorous and healthy.

Presently, the iris cultivars that meet the definition of constant bloomers are at most about 20, but their numbers will undoubtedly increase and in just a decade there will be hundreds of beautiful, modern form constant bloomers. We make this prediction because hybridizers will be making their crosses with far greater understanding and success. Even the top hybridizers who have championed the spring only bloomers are joining in this search for constant bloomers. It is the bandwagon that is leading the iris parade and youth members like Stephanie are its bandleaders.

The "greater understanding" comes by way of the October 13, 2000 issue of *Science* (Vol. 290 #5490 p.344-347, Urban Johanson et al.) that reports on the "Molecular Analysis of FRIGIDA, a Major Determinant of Natural Variation in *Arabidopsis* Flowering Time." Genomic studies on the *Cruciferae* mouse-ear cress, *Arabidopsis*, have made enormous strides towards our understanding of the genes that control plant physiology and development. The flowering time of various ecotypes (climatic strains) of *A. thaliana* have been used to show that a gene FRI (that we will designate as V) controls the requirement of vernalization, that is a winter period of 3-8 weeks of cold (4 degrees C, about 40 degrees F). It is interesting that the more northern ecotypes were more likely to be late flowering and the more southern ecotypes were more likely to be early flowering. There are a large number of genes that are involved in the control of flowering time, but the V gene has been shown to act like a switch for the vernalization requirement. Diploid plants with the dominant functional gene (VV or Vv) are late flowering and require vernalization. Plants that are homozygous faulted recessive (vv) are early flowering and do not require vernalization to bloom. Although rebloom in irises is not controlled by a rebloom gene, rather by many genes, it may be that this vernalization gene is critical to its potential to rebloom or be a rebloom carrier. In tetraploid irises to be expressed as earlier spring blooming and not requiring vernalization would require the homozygous recessive state of four doses (vvvv).

Based on the study of many crosses, we propose the hypothesis that in irises this recessive gene came by way of one diploid parent as two homologous chromosomes (same chromosome like the X chromosome in humans) of the same pair in an unreduced gamete. This united

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(continued from page 32.)

in a cross to two homologous but dissimilar chromosomes of the naturally occurring or human hybridized tetraploid parent. This created an early flowering tetraploid from an early flowering tetraploid and a late flowering diploid with genotype VVvv for the vernalization gene locus. This would mean that the chromosomes carrying the v genes would not independently assort with the chromosomes carrying the V genes, and the vv genes would always be passed on as a pair, like in amphidiploids, rather than singly, making the genotype VVVv very unlikely. This would mean that a rebloomer, no matter how weak or strong, would be vvvv and a rebloom carrier would be VVvv or vvv, but never VVVV. One marker trait for rebloom would be earlier flowering time. For instance, Keith Keppel's *luminatas* MIND READER and FANCY WOMAN are among the earliest TBs to bloom for us, and MIND READER crossed on CLARENCE has produced our blue-purple reblooming *luminata* DAUGHTER OF STARS (2001). An iris may carry the vvvv genotype, but not rebloom because of the many other traits that must be present to support it. If this is the case, then there are rebloom carriers, and heterosis is only one of the supporting features of rebloomers, and not the cause of rebloom. So, there is no single gene for rebloom, but there most probably is a gene to remove the requirement for vernalization to produce earlier spring bloom and make rebloom a possibility.

In the 1998 *Cumulative Checklist of Reblooming Iris*, edited by Ken Roberts, there are detailed lists of the states and foreign nations where rebloom has been reported that has been translated into the more useful listing of climatic zones. Just because an iris cultivar has been reported to rebloom in zones 4 through 10, doesn't mean that it is a constant bloomer. This is because most rebloomers are cyclic rebloomers, with only a second round of bloom in late summer or fall. Also, many only have a tendency to rebloom in the fall, but do it in many climatic zones. All reports of rebloom should be given as to the earliest month and climatic zone that the stalk opened its first blossom, not when the stalk first appeared or was fully developed. Some set up a computer spreadsheet of their rebloomers with each month of their bloom season where they can add a check for rebloom. (See *The Reblooming Iris Recorder*, vol. 51, Spring 1998.)

How and where do you test for constant bloomers? In the late 1980's at the author's Georgetown University (Washington, DC) garden beside the university power plant, was a microclimate of zone 7b. There, I grew a large collection of cold climate rebloomers. Of these, only IMMORTALITY, QUEEN DOROTHY, and BABY BLESSED

were constant bloomers skipping only the month of July and reblooming on into December for seven months of bloom. I had two or more well developed clumps of each, and never let them dry out as I watered over 200 rose cultivars among them. One winter, I covered a clump of HOLY KNIGHT that started reblooming in November with a thick inverted glass bell jar buried in the ground around the clump. It produced flower stalks and rebloomed all winter as in zone 9. The SDB TU TU TURQUOISE seldom reblooms for us in northern Virginia (zone 6b), and when it does, in November. Last year, I experimented with two clumps and encouraged abundant rebloom starting in early September by lightly watering nearly every day all summer.

PINK ATTRACTION, AUTUMN TRYST, and CHAMPAGNE ELEGANCE start reblooming for us in August, skipping only July, as does CHAMPAGNE ENCORE (CHAMPAGNE ELEGANCE X JOE COOL). Ben Hager's TOTAL RECALL is a constant bloomer for us with ruffled modern form, wide overlapping falls, bright clean color, and beautifully branched stalks that are tall (36"), and usually fully erect throughout the bloom season. With our two large plantings it didn't skip a month this year. TOTAL RECALL is MOTHER EARTH (37") X BONUS MAMA (30"). MOTHER EARTH rarely reblooms for us, while BONUS MAMA reblooms every year in October. BONUS MAMA is (ICE SCULPTURE X GEOMETRICS) X I DO, the stronger rebloom parent of IMMORTALITY. Hager's ultra wide, ruffled RECURRING DREAM (WINDS OF CHANGE X (MOTHER EARTH x FEED BACK, pollen parent PERFUME COUNTER)) is a constant bloomer here when our local customers don't thin it out. Lloyd Zurbrigg's I DO is behind all the above reliable cold climate rebloomers by Ben Hager.

To perform well, constant bloomers require a root run of at least 10" (4" above and 6" below the ground surface, with deeper better), abundant fertilizer ten weeks before the spring bloom season and after it as well, thorough watering once a week if it doesn't rain, and full sun. The best constant bloomers may need to be reset every other year, best done by resetting half the clump or having two clumps that alternate resetting so you constantly have stalks to enjoy and for hybridizing. Some 'over-performers' may require yearly replanting. For constant bloomers, forget the adage that "too much nitrogen causes soft growth and rot." Two or three feedings with foliar nutrients like Miracle Gro© or Peter's© during the summer and early fall will benefit them.

(continued on page 38.)

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(continued from page 35.)

Monty Byer's IB LOW HO SILVER (TB HOWDY DO: (Actress x Sky Hooks) X SDB BABY BLESSED), silvery white with self beards tipped yellow, might well head the list of constant bloomers; unfortunately, it isn't a useful parent. George, Barbara, and Michael Sutton reported from (usually) freeze-free zone 9, Porterville, CA, that LO HO SILVER went over five years without missing one month of bloom. The ranking of 3+ in the Sutton's 2000 catalog for such year round everbloomers that have three or more cycles of bloom is given only to TBs GOLDEN IMMORTAL, IMMORTALITY, MISS PORTERVILLE, SEPTEMBER FROST, IB LOW HO SILVER, and BB MINI CHAMPAGNE. Of these, we grow all but MISS PORTERVILLE. IMMORTALITY and LOW HO SILVER meet our criteria for constant bloom, with rebloom starting in July or August. SEPTEMBER FROST, a tall ruffled white with light yellow beards, rebloomed in mid September for us this year. GOLDEN IMMORTAL and MINI CHAMPAGNE start rebloom here in October. The month for start of rebloom for us for the cultivars the Suttons give a ranking of 3 for reliable multiple rebloom, usually start to rebloom for us in September to November. Richard Richards, with gardens in both La Mesa and Corona, CA, reports in *The Reblooming Iris Recorder* (Vol. 55, Spring 2000) for his 1999 season, that LOW HO SILVER never stopped reblooming, and Monty Byers' greenish LICHEN (SPIRIT OF MEMPHIS X EARL OF ESSEX) virtually never stopped. He felt that Lloyd Zurbrigg's inbred RENOWN [MATRIX: (Violet Miracle x Brother Carl: (Sister Helen x I Do)) X SUKY: (Violet Miracle x Victoria Falls)] was the top performer, "huge, ruffled flowers the color of mica, strong stalks with multiple branching all the way through the year."

Just because an iris is a reliable rebloomer, or constant bloomer in zones 8 or 9, doesn't mean it will be winter hardy in colder zones, or resistant to soft rot. If it is not winter hardy, it usually dies the first winter just as do our winter tender seedlings. We have had amazing success treating cultivars with a tendency to soft rot by using Dial® antibacterial liquid hand soap with Triclosan (also used in Colgate's® toothpaste). We give our own seedlings no such protection. When rot first appeared last spring in the most rot sensitive cultivars, we applied the Triclosan solution straight from the bottle on the affected rhizomes. It not only saved them, but being quite stable in soil, it gave them protection right through the summer and fall. We have yellow flags on all named clumps that rot (about 450 of our 6000 named iris varieties) and give them a prophylactic treatment of diluted (one tablespoon per gallon)

Triclosan in April, before the heavy rains and rising temperatures make rot possible. We are convinced that soft rot resistance is a genetic trait. The cause of soft rot is the endemic soil pathogen *Erwinia carotovora* widely prevalent in the east and some central states, but rare in the west. There are degrees of resistance to soft rot, and bearded iris cultivars hybridized across the country can be affected when the oxygen level in the soil is reduced during prolonged warm to hot, wet periods, and especially in heavy clay or waterlogged soil.

This year, one of the best constant bloomers was our BB MIDSUMMER'S EVE (IMMORTALITY X ENCHANTED WORLD), reset last summer. In October, the number of stalks in the planting equaled its spring bloom. It put up its first bloom stalks with the MDBs in late March, and only skipped July without blossoms. The SDBs BABY BLESSED, BABY PRINCE, PLUM WINE, and SMELL THE ROSES have almost matched this performance. John Weiler's PLUM WINE is an interesting inbred cross of LITTLE BISHOP (RUBY CONTRAST x LITTLE BLACKFOOT) X PLUM PLUM (BLOODSPOT x RUBY CONTRAST). Our best constant blooming SDB is the fairly wide, slightly ruffed violet self BABY PRINCE (PLUM WINE X BABY BLESSED). SMELL THE ROSES is THIRD CHARM X BABY BLESSED. Chuck Chapman's tailored blue-lavender self, FOREVER BLUE is almost a constant bloomer for us, and is from different lineage. Chapman reports it is a constant bloomer in zone 4.

Rebloom in SDBs, and especially MDBs, lags behind the rebloom progress in TBs. The key to advances in TB rebloom was the discovery of rebloom carriers, championed by the late Monty Byers. To discover rebloom carriers you must make test crosses on the constant bloomers by as many once bloomers as time and space allows. We have used the same approach with the dwarfs using the constant bloomers BABY BLESSED and BABY PRINCE, as well as nearly constant bloomers HOT, LITTLE SHOWOFF, AUTUMN MAPLE, TU TU TURQUOISE (if watered), and MDB DITTO. We have obtained reblooming dwarfs, some with modern wide, ruffled form and discovered the following rebloom carriers: Paul Black's SPOT OF TEA and TWEETY BIRD, Terry Aitken's PELE and LUMALITE, Marky Smith's STARBABY, and Sobek's SNOW TREE. Also, we discovered that RAT-A-TAT, CHOCOLATE CUPCAKE, WITH CASTANETS, and ORANGE TIGER are rebloom carriers. DESERT ORANGE X ORANGE TIGER produced a rebloomer, showing both

these great orange SDBs by Bennett Jones are rebloom carriers. Our favorite from these crosses is STAR PRINCE (2001) out of STARBABY X BABY PRINCE, where the dark plicata STARBABY created an intensified purple-black self and beards, wide and ruffled suggesting a miniature DUSKY CHALLENGER.

We crossed Keith Keppel's BB FAUX PAS X Ken Fisher's MTB rebloomer OZARK EVENING to obtain our nearly constant bloomer BB PEACH PARASOL (1998), that is producing early reblooming SDBs when crossed on SDBs. Virginia Keyser produced the ruffled rebloomer ZIGGY (2000) (Frank Jones' AUTUMN BUGLER X FAUX PAS) with variegation of broken pattern white splashes on maroon falls, straw yellow standards, and tangerine beards. ZIGGY may represent a new avenue to broken color as neither its parents nor their ancestors have it. After fifteen years of crossing of MTBs, *I. aphylla* strains, and TBs, the late Charlie Nearpass produced a constant blooming MTB, the ruffled peach self EMMA DOODLE (1999). The interesting inbred cross of ZURICH (IMMORTALITY x (CEASE-FIRE x SKY HOOKS)) X CHASTE WHITE, sibling of IMMORTALITY, produced a 26" BB (AUTUMN IVORY) (G. Spoon, 2001), a cold hardy rebloomer with superior substance, ruffled and flared ivory white flowers with light yellow beards that last 4 to 5 days, and exceptionally healthy foliage.

If a rebloomer lacks vernalization control and blooms earlier in the spring, and then continues bloom in the fall until early freezes, it must also be winter hardy. Antifreeze substances, such as proteins, have been discovered in other plants; these substances prevent the formation of ice crystals that can rupture cell membranes. We should search for the irises that have the best winter hardiness and can withstand the lowest freezing temperatures with the least damage. We have a seedling 90-39D with the garden name "Wintergreen" (HONKY TONK BLUES (rebloom carrier) X SILVERADO) that stays green except in severe cold, and even grows in the snow. It seldom blooms however, but our cross of it with ((DUSKY CHALLENGER x lookalike unknown) X PURPLE MAGIC) has yielded seedlings that are even more winter hardy. PURPLE MAGIC is (LILLA'S GLOVES (which is VIOLET MIRACLE x QUIET TIMES) X ORBITER). Our seedlings with flowers that have the best resistance to frost damage are crosses of AUTUMN ENCORE X LILLA'S STRIPES 96-295A and HOLY KNIGHT X PURPLE MAGIC 96-646A. Also, VIOLET MIRACLE X SHEBA'S QUEEN seedlings and introduced COBRA'S EYE (2000)

(continued on page 42.)

Reblooming Irises



CORN HARVEST (Wyatt '77)



BEST BET (Schreiner '88)



CHAMPAGNE ELEGANCE (Niswonger '87)



ENGLISH CHARM (Blyth '89)

(continued from page 40.)

show good winter hardiness. HELLO DARKNESS X PURPLE MAGIC has produced rebloomers showing HELLO DARKNESS to be a carrier, as did DUSKY CHALLENGER X STARBURST showing both to be rebloom carriers.

That VIOLET MIRACLE is central to many of these crosses is no surprise, as it is the parent of many cold hardy, reliable rebloomers like Jane McKnew's ROSALIE FIGGE (TITAN'S GLORY X VIOLET MIRACLE) and Clarence Mahan's SUKY and VIOLET MUSIC (both VIOLET MIRACLE X VICTORIA FALLS). Raymond Smith's last group of introductions featured two lavender blues with yellow beards, BLUE REVIEW (reblooms in September at 36" for us), and SONATA IN BLUE, that are both equal in modern form to once bloomers. Both have VICTORIA FALLS as pollen parent. Bill Maryott's 2000 introduction AUTUMN SAPPHIRE (YAQUINA BLUE X blue reblooming seedling) shows that YAQUINA BLUE is a rebloom carrier, suggesting avenues to cold hardy blue constant bloomers.

The ultimate goal is to produce an iris that can stay green all winter like a conifer and produce stalks, and that if started in late fall, will survive and resume development to bloom in early spring. One reason Dutch Irises dominate the florist trade for bluish violet color is their cold tolerance and good storage qualities. We see winter hardy, day neutral constant bloom irises as potential greenhouse plants for the cut flower industry.

In every color and color combination, variegated color breaks, and space agers, there are rebloomers and rebloom carriers to use to advance the performance and modern form of rebloomers. Across the spectrum of irises, rebloomers and rebloom carriers are moving to the fore and the conversion to the dominance of rebloom cultivars in commerce, predicted by Ben Hager and Charlie Nearpass and others, is almost upon us. It would be wise counsel for hybridizers to work with rebloomers and rebloom carrier parents in the majority of their crosses. Often, the rebloomer or rebloom carrier is healthier and more vigorous than the spring only bloomer lookalike. There are many gorgeous, unique spring only blooming cultivars being produced that may never be equaled with a comparable cold hardy rebloomer or constant bloomers, and we can make test crosses on them to see if they are rebloom carriers. Richards Richards has often stated that the West Coast is the ideal climate for rebloomers and wonders why the rebloomers are not taking over faster. His collection of 150 rebloomers rewards his efforts with spectacular year round bloom. Bill Maryott says in his 2000 catalog "Reblooming iris continue to lead the way in popularity." As we develop modern form,

constant bloom cultivars of true excellence, we should strive to raise the value and value holding ability of these cultivars.

Many new cold climate rebloomers of modern form have been produced in the last few years and represent good candidates for use in producing superior constant bloomers. We were impressed with Gary Side's early reblooming TB MISTY LADY and the ruffled, wide, and flared BB OCTOBER SPLENDOR that appears to be a pink glaciata with no anthocyanin in the hafts. We loved the modern form of UNBELIEVABLE LOVE (Grise 1998), the blue-violet with its unique dimple in the falls. We have obtained a reblooming horned white self seedling from CHRISTMAS X MESMERIZER showing CHRISTMAS to be a rebloom carrier. Of all our white rebloomers our SNOW PARASOL (1999) ((SPINNING WHEEL x WINTER OLYMPICS) X CHASTE WHITE) is the closest to the pure white of CHRISTMAS and ARCTIC EXPRESS. We were surprised to obtain from SPIRIT OF MEMPHIS X Fred Kerr's great yellow self NEAR AND DEAR a light orange rebloomer with tangerine beards, showing NEAR AND DEAR is a rebloom carrier and both parents carry two doses of tangerine factor (tt). We love the tall, well branched stalks of Hager's FOREVER YOURS, AUTUMN CLOUDS, and RECURRING RUFFLES, early rebloomers in cold climates. We think Betty Wilkerson's lovely ruffled white BRIDGE IN TIME has it all, with tall stalks and reliable early rebloom. Ensminger's BB COLOR BRITE, variegated violet splashed on pink, reblooms so beautifully that Ginny has refused to sell any of it! COLOR BRITE planted in front of BRIDGE IN TIME produced a spectacular profusion of blooms that continued for several months from late summer to autumn. We love the dark velvety black self of Lowell Baumunk's ruffled, reblooming IB MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM. Darlene Pinegar's early reblooming DARK PASSAGE has red-black color, orange beards, ruffles, and great branching, and was a garden favorite at our fall regional.

We will give George Sutton the last word. In the Sutton's 2000 catalog he says, "It does look like we are well on our way to solid everblooming iris. It really is happening!"

For recent review of genes that control flowering time see: G.G. Simpson et al., *Annu. Rev. Cell Dev. Biol.* 15, 519 (1999), and Summary 1997 article on Bearded Iris Rebloom in two parts by D. Spoon, *AIS Bulletin* #305: 48-58 and #306: 31-42. ☺

Reblooming Irises



ROSALIE FIGGE (J. McKnew '93)



PINK ATTRACTION (E. Hall '88)



PURE AS GOLD (Maryott '93)



CANTINA (Byers '90)



CLARENCE (Zurbrigg '91)



MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM
(Baumunk '99)

IB

Winterberry Gardens 2001 Introductions

by Don Spoon (except for **Autumn Ivory** by Ginny Spoon)

Autumn Joy TB, 30" (76 cm), E & RE (Nov. in zone 6). Ruffled plicata, falls with deep reddish violet (RHS 83A) border and white ground. Standards reddish violet (maroon at base) with minimal white on outside, slightly open showing white ground with dark veins inside. Reddish violet styles, bordered yellow. Short, dark veins around white beards tipped grayed-orange (167A) and brown (166A) in the throat. (Poet X Sweet Anita). \$35

Beth Marie TB, 29" (74 cm), ML. Baby ribbon pink with initial lavender wash, falls with pinkish rose haft peppering. Beards pink, darker in throat, based white. Ruffled and lightly laced. Well branched sturdy stalks with 7 buds. Slight sweet fragrance. Healthy and vigorous. (Anna Belle Babson X Loveboat) Named for Don's niece, Beth Knox, RN. \$35

Daughter of Stars TB, 35" (89 cm), EM & RE (Nov. in zone 6). Bluish purple bitone luminata with ruffled and flaring falls. Standards purple with near-white edges, style arms purple (89 C/D) with lighter lip and center. Falls deep purple (89A) in center grading lighter (89D), lighter veins, thin white edge, white area and ray pattern, white beards with hairs tipped yellow in throat. Slight sweet fragrance. Vigorous. Seven or more buds. Purple spathes and buds. Fertile both ways. (Clarence X Mind Reader) Named after the Algonquian Native American's translation for the Shenandoah River. \$45

Peach Berry Swirl TB, 35" (89 cm), M & RE (Oct. in zone 6). Peach-pink (49D) standards and styles, lavender at midrib with laced crests; variegated falls with violet (90 B-D) splashes on creamy white ground, bordered peach-pink; beards with lavender ends, centers are tangerine tipped white, tangerine deep in throat. Slight sweet fragrance. Ruffled and flared. 7-13 buds. Fertile both ways. (Peach Jam X Little John). \$40

Peach Design TB, 32" (81 cm), ML. Ruffled and flared radiant peach-yellow with showy tangerine beards. Vigorous. Excellent landscape iris. (Curious Yellow X My Jodie). \$20

Rainbow Candy TB, 32" (81 cm), ML. Wide, ruffled, and flared. Standards peach-pink; style arms peach-pink edged yellow. Grape violet falls with _" white border and deep purple wire rim. Tangerine beards. Nice branching with 7 buds. Fertile both ways. (((Condottiere x (Dusky Evening x Glendale)) x Ringo) X Ringo). \$35

Sandra Michaela TB, 36' (91 cm), ML. Wide, ruffled, and fully flared reddish maroon self and beards. Velvety texture. Elegant and stately. Good branching with 7 buds. Fertile both ways. (Hello Darkness X (Lady Friend x Blackout)). \$40

Silent Wings TB, 36" (91 cm), EM. Eye catching, vigorous luminata with light lavender standards darker in the center. Style arms light lavender. Falls reddish violet grading from dark centers to light lavender edges and white luminata veining. White area around white ended beards that glow golden yellow in the throats. Well branched with 7 buds. Ruffled and flared. Slight sweet fragrance. Fertile both ways. (Spirit World X Clarence) Reminiscent of an owl in silent flight. \$40

Autumn Ivory (G. Spoon) BB, 26" (66 cm), EM & RE (Oct. in zone 6). Ruffled, fully flared ivory white self with ivory beards, yellow in throat. Well-branched, sturdy stalks (7 buds) with good bloom sequence. Superior substance with long lived blossoms that extend bloom period. Healthy foliage. Slight sweet fragrance. (Zurich X Chaste White). \$35

Joyful Joy BB, 25" (63.5 cm), EM. Ruffled and flared with baby ribbon pink standards, styles, and falls. Wide, variegated falls with lavender to violet broken pattern streaks. Pinkish tangerine beards. Abundant stalks and well-spaced blooms. (Maria Tormena X Little John) Named in memory of a treasured friend and C&P member, Joy Peters. \$30

Tiger Taffy BB, 27" (69 cm), M. Well proportioned, ruffled and fully flared with white area at end of golden yellow beards with white bases. Darker butterscotch haft venation. Slight spicy fragrance. (Nectar X (Delia's Child x Samurai Warrior)). \$25

Giggler SDB, 12" (30.5 cm), EM & RE (Oct. in zone 6). Wide, ruffled, and fully flared. Light blue-green (122D). Standards with light green infusions at the midribs. Falls with light green spot pattern. Lavender blue beards, tipped yellow in middle, and yellow in the throat. 2 buds. Fertile both ways. (Tu Tu Turquoise X Little Showoff). \$15

Oxford Tweeds SDB, 9" (23 cm), EM & RE (Sept. in zone 6). Tannish golden yellow standards and falls. Maroon spot on falls with lighter midline. Darker radiating markings in standards and falls. Orange beards. Ruffled and flared. Closed standards. 2-3 buds. (Spot of Tea X Hot). \$15

My Kayla SDB, 13" (33 cm), ML. Ruffled and fully flared light lavender blue with darker streaks, reddish violet spot around bushy white beards, golden yellow in throat. Impressive branching with 2 to 5 buds. Vigorous. (U-Turn X Pippi Longstockings). \$15

Pretty Girl SDB, 11" (28 cm), EM & RE (Sept. in zone 6). Ruffled, bright white with golden yellow beards and hafts. Closed standards. Nicely branched with 2-3 buds. Awarded two ECs. (Baby Blessed X Fruit Loops) Named for Rosalie Figge's cat. \$15

Prince Pele SDB, 11" (28 cm), EM & RE (Sept. in zone 6). Intense golden yellow self with darker golden yellow beards that are orange in the throat. Golden diamond dusting. Flared and lightly ruffled. Closed standards. Fertile both ways. EC. (Pele X Baby Prince). \$15

Rainbow Rim SDB, 14" (36 cm), EM. Wide, ruffled, fully flared beauty. Bright yellow standards and styles, both with bases lavender blue. Lavender blue falls, edged bright yellow. Maroon spot edged yellow with more violet midline. Lavender blue beards tipped yellow. Vigorous and fertile. 2-3 buds. (Being Busy X Little Showoff). \$15

Star Prince SDB, 9" (23 cm), EM & RE (Oct. in zone 6). Wide, ruffled and flared, purple-black self and beards. Much darker than 93A. Closed, domed standards. Vigorous, rapid increase. 1-2 buds. Fertile. (Star Baby X Baby Prince) Suggests a miniature Dusky Challenger. \$15

Royal Maroon MDB, 8" (20 cm), EM & RE (Sept. in zone 6). Lightly ruffled, fully flared maroon self (187A blended with 185A) with brownish maroon beards. Style arms dark amber, with maroon midribs and crests. 1-2 buds. Light blue stamens. Fertile both ways. (Pele X Baby Prince). \$15

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Rainbow Candy (2001) TB



Autumn Joy (2001) TB, RE



Peach Berry Swirl (2001) TB, RE



Sandra Michaela (2001) TB



Joyful Joy (2001) BB

Winterberry Gardens 2001 Introductions



Silent Wings (2001) TB



Daughter of Stars (2001) TB,RE



Giggler (2001) SDB, RE



Rainbow Rim (2001) SDB



Prince Pele (2001) SDB, RE



Oxford Tweeds (2001) SDB, RE



Tiger Taffy (2001) BB



My Kayla (2001) SDB



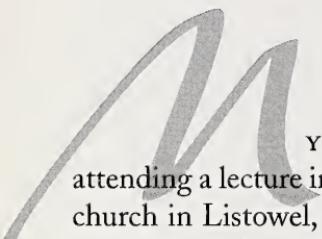
Peach Design (2001) TB



Beth Marie (2001) TB

Experiences with Rebloom

by Lloyd Lurbrigg, North Carolina



Y FIRST EXCITEMENT IN GARDENING CAME WHILE attending a lecture in 1938, by "Dick, the Amateur Gardener", held at our church in Listowel, Ontario, Canada. I recall coming home and telling my mother about it. At the time she had only a few months left to live and our pastor, Alex Edmison, encouraged me to find some outside interest that would look to the future. A remarkable preacher, and a plant breeder, Mr. Edmison was breeding delphiniums and gladiolus, and the parsonage became a magnet to me during the growing season. He also gave me some roller-pigeons to breed, and my first ideas of color genetics were formed in the pigeon-loft.

When it came time to attend Toronto University, I made the shift of interest to the iris, which could be tended in the late spring and summer. Oddly enough, Mr. Edmison made the same shift quite independently of my decision, and I visited his garden every year for the next decade and more.

When I announced to a friend that I was going to breed irises, Mrs. K., noted for her lively personality and loud voice, shouted "Oh, no! Not irises! They bloom for too short a time, and they are very hard on the soil!" However, I was not deterred by the warning, yet never have I forgotten it.

The immediate problem was winter-hardiness or lack thereof. Some of the Asian species behind the tall bearded irises would not tolerate the Canadian climate. In the 1940's SNOW FLURRY was often the center of attention and conversation. Its pod parent PURISSIMA could not survive a southern Ontario winter, and many of the SNOW FLURRY progeny failed also. Many of the reds from Tom Craig were much too tender, as were some of the Milliken introductions. The need for hardiness limited the choice of parents dramatically.

Publications of the American Iris Society stressed that a hybridizer should have goals for his work. I chose three: amoenas, rebloomers, and arilbreds. The work with amoenas was hampered by infertility and poor germination. I sought to overcome this by crossing the amoenas

to dominant whites, and then back-crossing. SAILS AND SEAS ('56) resulted from this effort, but it was eclipsed by the arrival on the scene of WHOLE CLOTH ('58), a dominant amoena from Paul Cook of Bluffton, Indiana. I was able to introduce some yellow amoenas, but none from a rather large number of pink amoenas.

The second goal, rebloom, nearly died on the vine! The Canadian climate was too severe to allow much expression of this trait. Career-wise, it seemed necessary to do more graduate study, and my choice was Indiana University. The only AIS member with a garden in Bloomington was Raymond G. Smith of the Speech Department. Thinking to rid himself quickly of an iris buff, he told me severely that he was not interested in the iris, except for remontancy! What a trick of fate! Raymond gave me space in his garden, as did Earl Roberts of Indianapolis, a specialist in median irises. Thus I was able to continue my hybridizing while attending IU.

The success rate of my third goal, arilbreds, was also very limited. ONCE MOHR ('59), an arilbred median, gave rebloom at the end of tall bearded season. Its sibling, DEAD SEA SCROLLS ('61), was quite novel in texture and form. Mr. Edmison's SULTAN'S CAPITOL ('58) was a lovely brown arilbred that deserved much more attention that it was given.

While I was attending Indiana University, I bought a home with a garden, but suffered the keen agony of losing all my bloom to hail one year, and to a freeze the next. It was then that rebloom became my first and most serious hybridizing goal. Paul Cook warned me not to expect anything of note in the seedling beds for ten years, but he did commend my choice of Virginia for my life work. I was Professor of Music there for the next 29 years. GRAND BAROQUE ('69) was, perhaps, that "iris of note" that Paul had predicted. It was wide, slightly ruffled, and a yellow amoena, but with considerable anthocyanin showing upon first opening. It proved to be a good parent, producing four introductions in the 1970s: BAROQUE PRELUDE ('74), I DO ('74), RIME FROST ('76), and HALLOWED THOUGHT ('77).

I DO, a large-flowered white rebloomer, also became an excellent parent, an opinion shared by the late Ben Hager. From some 85 seedlings out of I DO by ENGLISH COTTAGE came the iris named IMMORTALITY ('82). This iris became a runner-up for the Dykes Medal. It is a cool white with lavender buds, growing on rather short stalks, and giving almost continuous rebloom where the climate permits.

It was a pleasure to see Helen Reynolds during a recent trip to Missouri. Helen's SUMMER PINK ('63) was at the base of my remontant pink lines. The best of the line was JENNIFER REBECCA ('85), a true rose-pink self. A visitor to the garden of our AIS President, Clarence Mahan, complained about the lack of quality in rebloomers. "I prefer mine like this" he stated as he pointed to JENNIFER REBECCA. It was a bitter disappointment to find that this iris is nearly infertile.

Among my yellow remontants, HARVEST OF MEMORIES ('85) is important. It won Queen of Show at the Region 4 Fall Show again this year -- its fourth win, I believe. Its outstanding trait is the stalk and branching in the fall, which is truly candelabra at its best. It is the only worthwhile seedling of CORN HARVEST (Wyatt '77) that has appeared in my breeding. SPIRIT OF MEMPHIS ('77) was my first remontant with a lot of ruffling and some lace. SUNNY DISPOSITION ('91) gives a lot of good rebloom, and may prove to be an important parent.

My successful violet remontants are mostly based on VIOLET SUPREME ('71). One of the best was VIOLET CLASSIC ('76). The best parent is VIOLET MIRACLE ('79). Many hybridizers have made introductions from this iris.

There has always been a lot of rebloom among plicatas. EARL OF ESSEX ('80) was one of my best, a mid-violet on white. Ben Hager got unbelievable amounts of rebloom on many of its seedlings, and some of these were introduced. Earl Alexander of West Alexandria, Ohio, sent me some of his seedlings for testing. The best was introduced as MATRIX (Hall/Zurbrigg '91), from parentage of Violet Miracle X Brother Carl. This iris is wider than either parent, with excellent form and considerable propensity to rebloom; really a pastel plicata, MATRIX is an excellent breeder. One of my introductions that is doubly out of EARL OF ESSEX is LADY ESSEX ('91). "She" reblooms very early and has distinctive white falls neatly bordered in light violet.

Amoenas have always appealed to me greatly. BAROQUE PRELUDE was an excellent yellow amoena in its time, and is a full sibling to I DO. It once won the award of "Best Clump of Iris" in Texas for the late Rudi Fuchs. More recently, CLARENCE ('91) has been winning much praise. Although I have been advised that it is incorrect to say so, I continue to refer to it as an amoena-luminata. The standards are nearly white, with some blue-violet at their tops, while the falls are also blue-violet. However, there is a large pure white central area that extends

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into the heart of the flower. Apart from the coloring, it has excellent form and good branching, and reblooms faithfully in many climates.

The so-called Space Age irises appeared in Lloyd Austin's catalog. He created them from some plicata seedlings from the garden of Sydney Mitchell of California. Some of Lloyd's things were not hardy in the East, and almost all were shunned by the judges, with the possible exception of SPOON OF GOLD ('61). In the late 1980's Monty Byers appeared on the iris scene. He was the only irisarian I knew who was interested in both rebloom and Space Agers, and we traded seedlings and named varieties. Monty founded his breeding on Manley Osborne's SKY HOOKS ('80) and grew thousands of seedlings from that iris. Monty was able to make both Space Age and reblooming irises very popular with a wide public. THORNBIRD (Byers '89) became popular due to its excellent showing at the AIS Convention in Washington, DC, in 1991. Its pod parent was my ART OF RAPHAEL ('79) which doubtless contributed to its unusual tannish color and violet beards. THORNBIRD has since won the Dykes Medal.

My favorite of Monty's introductions is MESMERIZER ('91), a white with large white flounces. It seems to be the most worthwhile parent in my current search for reblooming Space Agers for the East. It reblooms freely in parts of California and seems fully hardy here in North Carolina. I plan to introduce some of its children and grandchildren. However, Monty's MOONLIT ('86), crossed with pollen of my ANEW ('83), may yield my first reblooming Space Ager to be introduced; this tall violet blend has an outpouring of yellow at the haft and will be named DURHAM DREAM.

The breeding of irises has been an avocation for me, not a vocation. It has given much pleasure and excitement over the years, and it has been my pleasure to share some of this with you. ☺



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Meet the New RVPs

for 2001

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS ARE ELECTED TO THREE-YEAR terms by their Regions and approved by the AIS Board at the fall meeting. This year's elected RVPs (listed by region) are as follows:



Sandra Rawlings, Region 6

Sandra is a lifelong resident of greater Cincinnati, Ohio, except for the seven years she lived in Louisville, Kentucky. It was there that Sheila Gardner, co-worker and iris connoisseur, introduced her to the world of irises, and transformed a love of flowers to a passion for irises. Sandra ordered twenty irises in 1985 and joined AIS the same year.

Upon returning to Cincinnati in 1990, she joined the Miami Valley Iris Society in Dayton, Ohio, where she has served as president, vice president, and is currently treasurer. She just completed a term as treasurer for Region 6 and has recently become an accredited AIS garden judge.

Sandra grows all classes of bearded irises, as well as Siberians, Japanese, and a few Louisianas and species irises. Her garden also hosts a collection of daylilies, hostas and many other perennials. Sandra shares her home and garden with her mother, Martha, and spoiled-rotten dachshund "Cricket".

Sandra retired last year from General Electric Company where she worked for thirty-five years in their Major Appliance and Aircraft Engine business. She is thrilled to be given the opportunity to serve AIS as RVP for Region 6.

Charles J. Walkowiak, Region 10

Chuck was born in Duluth, Minnesota, the third generation of Polish immigrants who homesteaded in the north woods located north of Duluth. The family subsisted on farming, logging, hunting and fishing.

Shortly after World War II Chuck's father moved the family south to the swamps and bayous of Louisiana where he grew up and continued

(continued on page 57.)

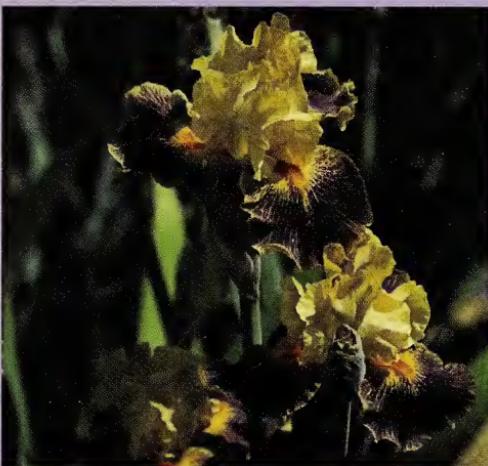
Aitken's Salmon Creek Garden



Nut and Honey, TB, Aitken ('01)



Dancing Sunspots, TB, Lankow ('01)



Delirium, IB, M. Smith ('01)



Ever Cool, IB, Aitken ('01), Rebloomer



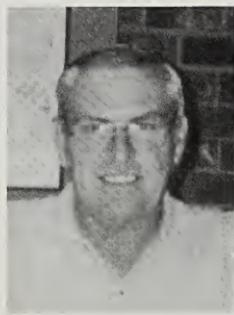
Be Little, MDB, Aitken ('01)

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experiencing nature's great outdoors. Being an avid outdoorsman, Chuck gained an appreciation for nature's flora and fauna.

After several years absence from Louisiana while serving in the military, Chuck and his wife returned home, settled on the Louisiana Prairie and built their home. While landscaping their home, Chuck became interested in water gardening, and thus his first true introduction to the glorious Louisiana iris.

He was so taken by the beauty of the flower, the historical aspects of collecting and hybridizing it, that he joined the local Society for Louisiana Irises (SLI). He began participating in shows, sales and conventions, to learn as much as he possibly could. He has won numerous ribbons and awards at the local shows. His garden contains approximately one hundred cultivars of Louisiana irises and he has started hybridizing on a small scale.

Chuck recently was appointed to the SLI Board, and is looking forward to his term as AIS RVP for Region 10, representing and serving fellow irisarians and their interests.



Eileen Allison, Region 11

Eileen was born and raised on a farm in central Kansas where growing crops and gardening of all kinds of different things was as natural as the sun coming up each morning. Her parents grew a few irises, in the prevalent colors of the day - white, yellow and purple, and Eileen became interested in these at an early age.

She later married and moved to Idaho where her interest in irises was revived by an aunt living there in the mid 50's. The aunt showed Eileen a picture of a light pink iris she had ordered, and offered to share the increase the following year. The die was cast. Eileen began poring over color catalogs of irises, discovered there was a local iris club and joined that in the early 1960s.

Eileen entered an iris show the first year and won a couple of blue ribbons. She began going on regional iris tours and learned about different varieties of irises and the wide range of colors available. A master judge in her iris club suggested that Eileen become an iris judge which she did. Now a Master Judge, she feels it was well worth the time and effort, and that she still has much to learn about irises.

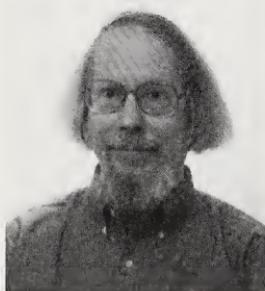
Eileen grows a wide variety of irises, and lost count after the varieties numbered over 500. Her interest extended to other flower areas and she is also a fully accredited judge of gladiolus and chrysanthemums



Band Instructor and private instructor in various instruments. She has been and still is an organist and/or choir director at various churches since the age of 20.

In 1994 Margaret retired from teaching and is now farming walnuts and various citrus, in addition to being co-owner of Sutton's Green Thumber Iris Gardens. She is increasingly involved with the iris gardens, which started as a two-person operation some twenty years ago, with George doing the "outside" and Margaret doing the "inside" work. With the iris gardens now approaching ninety acres, Margaret finds that her "inside" work has also grown, with her iris involvement now being year-round.

Margaret has served in various iris club offices, first in the Redwood Iris Society in Ukiah in Northern California. Since her move to Porterville in 1987 she has held positions in both the Sequoia Iris Society and Fresno Iris Society. She has contributed several articles to the Region 14 Bulletin, the AIS Bulletin and the British Iris Society Yearbook. She served Region 14 as Regional Bulletin editor for three years and has just finished a term as assistant RVP, a position which includes Judges' Training Chair. She is currently co-editor of the International News for the *AIS Bulletin*.



Gerald C. Snyder, Region 15

Gerry was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, and grew up in its northern suburb of Mount Healthy. One prominent feature of the home where he spent most of his formative years was the thirty-foot sidewalk from the house to the garage, lined with irises on both sides. These were mostly light purple, with a few white and yellow. Once in a

while a friend of the family would donate something more exotic, like a dark purple. These always did well, but often were lost in the process of digging and dividing. Thus at an early age Gerry picked up a basic love for irises and a feeling of attachment to special favorites.

After college and a few years working in Colorado, Gerry settled in the Los Angeles area, where he bought a home in 1977. Unfortunately, at the time a small yard seemed like an advantage. In the early and middle eighties he bought some rhizomes from the fall sale of the San Fernando Valley Iris Society (SFVIS). These survived and performed well enough to keep up interest, but the iris virus did not hit with a vengeance until he walked into the club's spring show in 1989. He was stunned at the colors, combinations, and patterns. He joined SFVIS on the spot, and joined AIS as soon as he knew it existed, becoming a life member a couple of years later. He is also a member of other local societies and AIS sections.

He and Michelle (current AIS Insurance Chair, whom he had met at a sushi bar a few years earlier) were married in Allan Ensminger's iris garden the day after the end of the 1990 Omaha convention. He has attended every spring meeting since.

Within a couple of years Gerry started a seven-year stint as editor of the SFVIS newsletter, during the last two of which he was also president. When he became president, he noticed that among all the meetings at a spring national, there was nothing for the local clubs. He then obtained permission to set up the first affiliates' meeting, which has become a regular feature of the spring national.

He became an AIS judge in 1996, and in 1999 he became Symposium Chair, when that position was split off from Awards.

Despite the small yard, Gerry and Michelle grow about 120 recent TB's, plus a few historics, smaller bearded iris, Louisianas, spurias, and species.

Sandy Ives, Region 16

Raymond A. Ives to Canada Customs and Revenue, Sandy to everyone else.

More seriously, Sandy was born and schooled "a long time ago" in the Huronia area of Ontario, Canada. It's snow belt country; hundreds of inches of white mulch yearly.

His formal education ended with a degree in biology and a second degree in business from McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario. The university was a short walk to the Royal Botanical Gardens in Burlington, but his first visit to the RBG wasn't made until ten years after he left for Ottawa.



(continued on page 62.)



2001 INTRODUCTIONS

PINK SERAPH (Shockey)

Arilbred (OGB). Seedling 94-103-C. Perhaps the pinkest of arilbreds. Excellent substance and healthy plants. Selected by Irene Shockey from the seedlings of the late Howard Shockey. (Energizer X seedling involving Queen Sheba & Heart Stealer). \$35 postpaid.



BYZANTINE ART (Baumunk)

Arilbred (OGB). Seedling OL4. Dramatic color, great flower form and vigorous plants. Best Seedling, Denver Botanic Gardens Early Show 2000. (Onlooker bee pod). \$35 postpaid.



PETIT LION (Baumunk)

Species (*i. variegata*). Seedling #V-STAR. Cutest, perkiest and most floriferous of the several clones of *i. variegata* we have grown. From SIGNA seed lot 92CO38 (N. Service, France). \$20 postpaid.

Order directly from this advertisement or request our free list of modern, historic and species bearded iris.

Lowell Baumunk
10918 N. Sunshine Dr.
Littleton, CO 80125
(303) 791-0456 Lbaumunk@aol.com



Photo: John Cleese, *The New Zealand Gardener*

IRISES FOR 2001

The calendar to begin a new century

\$6.00 each,

Or a wholesale packet of ten, \$30 + \$3 each packet shipping

Send your orders to:

The AIS Storefront

Nancy & Irv Pocklington

#11 Parklane Circle

Peralta, NM 87042

Unlike many, Sandy has no idea when he first became interested in irises specifically. However, what's bred in the bone will out in the flesh! His great-grandfather introduced several varieties that can be found in the 1949 Check List, one of which is still available (LEMON CHIFFON). His grandfather's interest in gardening predates the 20th century. His interest in iris was limited to establishing huge clumps of TBs for garden shows. Sandy's father was the rebel; his interest is only about three years old now. But resistance was futile.

Life in Ottawa, Canada consists of long, cold winters with heavy snow (and concurrent use of salt). MDBs start around May 15th, SDBs around May 25th, TBs and Siberians around June 2nd, spurias around June 30th. Rebloomers can be seen in early September and can last until the American Thanksgiving. The seasons have been moving forward over the last few years. Could it be the earthquakes?

The property supports three separate small iris beds, plus a vegetable garden that functions as an overflow bed nowadays. Tall spikes must be supported. They grow perhaps two hundred cultivars of bearded iris, few of which get to form three year clumps, a collection of Siberians, a collection of Japanese, and as many species as will survive. Most of the bearded iris are modern (post '95) introductions with a growing tendency to medians and dwarfs.

Sandy believes the best companion plants for iris are tomatoes. The kids attack the tomatoes and leave the iris alone. Cygon takes care of the borer.

Sandy's immediate interests involve finding a source for *I. perrieri*. Otherwise his hydroponics garden is given over to jump-starting species and cultivar crosses. He likes the thought of bloom in two years, there's no space for 'show-pokes'. Most of the seedlings end up in his father's garden for bloom the subsequent year.

Maureen Mark and Sandy have been married 14 years. They have two kids, one hybridizer and one arranger. They have an agreement to disagree about everything concerning irises with the possible exception of show judging. They are both AIS, CIS, DIS, and Siberian lifers, and belong to most of the other sections as well. Sandy has been a garden judge for two years, Maureen for one.

Ray Keisling, Region 18

Ray Keisling's life began on a farm in the Appalachian foothills of Tennessee. It wasn't long after he took his first steps that his parents handed him a hoe, pointed to the tobacco beds, and said "go forth and dig." With each swing of his hoe, he vowed that he would learn a trade far different from working the dirt.



Ray majored in business at Tennessee Technical College in Cookeville, TN. After leaving college, he served two years in the Army, and made his way to Memphis, TN where he worked as an accountant and met his wife, Judy, a journalism major at Memphis State University. When she took a job as editor of a local newspaper and needed some photos taken but had no money to pay a photographer, Ray obtained an old 4x5 speed graphic camera, learned how to use it, and became "hooked" on photography. He spent the remainder of his work-for-pay career in the photographic industry. Over the next 40 years, he owned a photo studio in Memphis; managed a chain of studios in Ohio, and operated a large commercial photo processing lab in Detroit. When Judy had a career opportunity to move to Kansas City, Ray said, "let's go," and immediately immersed himself in yet another phase of the photographic industry – selling and maintaining commercial photographic equipment.

Ray and Judy have five children, all of whom are married and have children of their own. They boast often about their ten grandchildren, five girls and five boys.

Ray's interest in iris began in the early '90s when a friend gave him a dozen rhizomes. The next year when they bloomed, Ray became enamored with their beauty, and as one who thinks that anything worth doing is worth overdoing, he immediately bought more, and more, and more. Pretty soon, he had a hobby that was out of control. When he retired from the photographic business three years ago, he and Judy turned that out-of-control hobby into a small commercial garden, After Hours Iris Patch. They grow over 2500 varieties of both bearded and beardless irises as well as other perennials, mostly daylilies, peonies, and hostas.

Ray joined AIS in 1994 and is a member of the Ozark Iris Society, Greater Kansas City Iris Society, Pony Express Iris Society, and Tulsa Iris Society. He is also a member of The Society for Siberian Iris, Median Iris Society, and Spuria Iris Society. He became an accredited AIS judge in 1999.

Nowadays, when the weather cooperates, you'll find Ray and his hoe somewhere on his four acres just north of Liberty, MO – back to his roots again, just working the dirt, this time surrounded by his passion, the genus iris.

(continued on page 66.)



STORM TRACK (Keppel '01) TB



FOREIGN LEGION (Keppel '01) TB



RIO (Keppel '01) TB



FIERY TEMPER (Keppel '01) TB



BROAD SHOULDERS (Keppel '01) TB



MASTERY (Blyth '01) TB



KEITH KEPPEL

P. O. BOX 18154 SALEM, OR 97305

INTRODUCTIONS FOR 2001

Tall Bearded

BROAD SHOULDERS M 38" (92-83S: (Night Game x ((Tomorrow's Child x (Show Biz x Villain)) x Gallant Rogue)) X Romantic Evening) Standards netted and washed buff cream on palest lavender, falls plush port red shaded dahlia, henna brown beards. WIDE! #95-68H. **\$45.00**

FIERY TEMPER M 36" (Broad Shoulders sib) Wine red bitone with velvety blackish wine falls. The prominent red beards practically scream at you. #95-68L. **\$40.00**

FOREIGN LEGION ML 39" (92-83T X Romantic Evening) Golden sand to chamois standards, dusky blackish cyclamen falls, smoky but bright orange beards. Sturdy stalks, good growth. #95-69A. **\$40.00**

JERSEY BOUNCE EM 38" (((Lyrical x Marmalade) x Florida Orange) x Rare Occasion) X (White Heat x Divinity) Incredibly fluted and ruffled cream white with edges flushed cream, at times with an evanescent pale pink glow, all set off by bright red beards. High bud count and the most delicious lemon to cattleya orchid scent. #93-111 B. **\$40.00**

QUANDARY E 38" (Cinnamon Sun X Ghio 88-180P, parent of Snowed In) White standards, cream falls with heavy outpouring of lemon to buff yellow, and the lower central portion of the falls brushed or sanded light violet. Flame beards, ruffled form. #95-97H. **\$40.00**

RIO ML 38" (Braggadocio x Sharpshooter sib) Apricot yellow standards flushed peach, rosy mauve falls paler on edge and around bold solid burnt orange-red beards. A carnival of color. #96-50B. **\$40.00**

STORM TRACK M 34" ((Armada x (Snowbrook x Blackout)) X ((Rain Flurry sib x Charmed Life) x Blackout) x (Snowbrook x Blackout)) Dark blackish purple standards and $\frac{3}{8}$ " band on white falls; beards dark blue. Low bud count but high visibility. #92-36A. **\$40.00**

TEAMWORK M 36" (Wild Wings sib) Pale lavender blue standards; the ultra-smooth huckleberry purple falls with rusty ginger beards give both a polished and a velvety effect. #93-72H. **\$40.00**

Intermediates

BALLYCASTLE E 24" (Londonderry sib) Clear light pink with just a faint lavender cast. Very floriferous. #91-41A. **\$15.00**

BRAT M 26" (((Gigolo x Sketch Me) x Hot Streak) X B rash) Brassy tan yellow, falls washed violet maroon except on edges. #93-1 D. **\$20.00**

CITIZENS BAND E 25" ((Snowbrook x sib) X Chubby Cheeks) Chicory blue standards, white falls banded royal purple. #94-47C. **\$20.00**

...and a Tall Bearded from Australia

MASTERY (Barry Blyth) L 36" ((Sooner Serenade x Latin Melody) X Plume d'Or Butterscotch standards, red brown falls with $\frac{3}{4}$ " wide tan beige band. Unusual pattern, variable branching. #E120-1. **\$45.00**

Add \$5.00 for shipping and handling. Priority Mail delivery July/August.



M. D. Faith, Region 22

M.D., as he likes to be called, lives in Searcy, Arkansas, not far from where he was reared. Early memories include such chores as milking and leading the cow to a nearby pasture before heading off to school; then after school splitting and carrying in the wood for both heat and cooking.

Being a child of the "great depression" also carries with it memories of a simple way of life, where in the spring the beauty of Iris germanica, both white and blue-purple, adorned the town gardens and farm yards, and the local cemeteries where it was the dominant plant near the grave stones. This instilled a life-long love of iris for M. D. that has become a passion with him in later years.

In 1943 at the age of seventeen M. D. joined the U.S. Army Air Force. He was called to active duty just after his eighteenth birthday. After phase training in El Paso, Texas, he and his air crew were assigned to a new B-24 bomber and flew, via Iceland, to Hardwick, England. He completed 34 combat missions before returning to the U.S. in May, 1945.

M. D. was employed by Southwestern Bell Telephone Company for five years, was self employed as an electrical and telephone contractor, and the last ten years before selling his business and retiring, he operated his own independent real estate brokerage firm.

With the help and encouragement of his wife June, M. D. grows about 200 hundred different cultivars and species of iris. Garden space is limited so he rotates out of the older varieties into more recent introductions. It has also forced him into container growing of iris. His hybridizing effort puts still more pressure on his garden space, and limits the number of seedlings he has room to grow. He feels his best work has been in Louisianas, and introduced the first of them in 2000.

M. D. is active in the Central Arkansas Iris Society, White County Iris Society, and Hot Springs Iris Society, and has won many awards at their iris shows. He served as president of CAIS for two years, vice president for two years, program chairman, and show chairman. He has also presented many programs on iris to local iris societies and to garden clubs.

Region 22 activities included membership chairman for the last three years, judging at shows and in gardens, attending all Region 22 annual meetings, and many judging schools. As a member of AIS, M. D. has successfully recruited many other AIS members, feeling this is the best way for people to obtain satisfaction from their iris gardening efforts. He looks forward to continuing this effort in his capacity of RVP for the Region. ☙

How to Register and Introduce an Iris

These instructions apply to the registration of all classes of irises except bulbous irises.

Registration

1. Write to the AIS Registrar, Keith Keppel, P. O. Box 18154, Salem, OR 97305, for a registration blank, enclosing check for the registration fee payable to the American Iris Society. The fee is \$7.50 per registration, or \$10.00 if transferring a name from a previous registration.

2. At the same time, select a name which has not previously been used and submit it for approval. To determine availability of name, please refer to all ten-year Check Lists (beginning 1939) and annual Registrations and Introductions booklets (beginning 1990). Please also suggest alternate names. A name is not registered until the registration application has been completed and approved and a certificate of registration returned to you.

3. Names should follow the rules established by the International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants. Rules are subject to change, but at the present time the following names will not be permitted:

a. Names of living persons without their written consent, or names of recently (10 years) deceased persons without permission of next of kin or other authority.

b. Personal names containing the following forms of address or their equivalent in another language: Mr., Mrs., Miss, Ms.

c. Names including symbols, numerals, non-essential punctuation or abbreviations.

d. Names beginning with the articles "a" or "the" or their equivalent in other languages unless required by linguistic custom.

e. Names in Latin or in latinized form.

f. Slight variation of a previously registered name.

g. Names in excess of three words, ten syllables, or thirty letters.

h. Names containing the word "iris" or "flag" or the species name of any recognized species of Iris, or formed wholly by recombining parts of the parental species' names.

i. Names containing the hybridizer's name in possessive form.

j. Names which exaggerate or may become inaccurate (e.g. Heaviest Lace, Tallest Black), or which are composed solely of adjectives which could be construed as a simple description (e.g. Pale Blue, Ruffled).

k. Names translated from the original language; they should be transliterated as necessary.

4. Previously registered names may be re-used only if (a) the original registration has not been introduced or distributed by name, (b) does not appear by name in the parentage of later registrations, and (c) a statement of permission is obtained from the prior registrant.

5. Names will not be released as obsolete unless there is proof that no stock now exists and that the iris was not listed as a parent in registrations.

Introduction

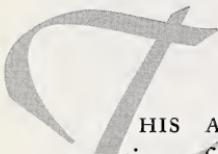
Introduction is the offering for sale to the public. Catalogs, printed lists, and advertisements in the American Iris Society Bulletin are acceptable means of introduction. It is a requisite of awards of the Society above that of High Commendation. A variety is not eligible for listing on the awards ballot until after it has been recorded as introduced by the Registrar-Recorder. Send the Registrar a copy of your list, catalog or advertisement by first class mail so verification of introduction can be made.

The Registrar will supply a sample application form upon receipt of a stamped self-addressed envelope.

New Introductions

In 2001

by Bruce Filardi, Oregon



THIS ARTICLE IS AN ATTEMPT TO PROVIDE AN EFFICIENT mention of all the noteworthy new introductions in 2001, in *all* iris classes. Information was gathered via a questionnaire mailed to all active hybridizers, as far as I know. If you're a hybridizer and you did not hear from me, please drop me a line so I can include your intros next year. A big "thank you" to all the hybridizers who took the time to provide this info.

Lest I be charged with being TB-centric(!), I'm starting this article with species crosses first, then beardless, then medians, and finally TB's. I've made an attempt to arrange the TB's into color categories as accurately as possible from the hybridizers' descriptions. Because of the quantity of fine new TB introductions, only a minimum of information has been included; naturally, details will be available in the appropriate catalogues, and I'll also be glad to provide more info on specific cultivars via e-mail.

2001 will bring us two new species crosses from Lynn Markham. They are both aphylla/cultivar hybrids, intermediate in stature but SPEC-X by pedigree and character. The first is WILD PETTICOATS, a strongly marked violet-on-white plicata; the second is UNDERSTATED, an unusual shade of violet-infused parchment, and an exceptionally strong plant.

Top JI's will include HONOUR from Currier McEwen, close to a true pink, with darker pink veining; HATSUHIME from Kamo Nurseries in Japan, a lavender-pink 6F diploid; and DIRIGO RED ROCKET from John White, a medium-red 3F with white rays. Ensata Gardens will be introducing seedling BH11 for the late Shuichi Hirao of Japan, a 6F white with red rim on each petal.

Highly-anticipated Siberians are MERRYSPRING (McEwen), which the hybridizer considers to be possibly the best SIB he has introduced to date, and DIRIGO RUFFLED FEATHERS (J. White), a light mid-blue. Jan Sacks and Marty Schafer will be introducing a small-flowered yellow which they have named in honor of their friend

BARBARA SCHMIEDER, as well as a vigorous tall white with gold signal, which they hope to name SIMPLICITY. Ensata Gardens looks forward to another in their line of multi-petaled SIB's, a 4" lavender pink "cabbage rose" with 18+ petals, yet to be named.

2001 will also bring us two new arilbreds which perform in both hot and cold climates. Lowell Baumunk will introduce his own BYZANTINE ART (lavender standards over buff falls overlaid red) and Howard Shockey's stunning PINK SERAPH (lavender and pink with red-violet signal).

Fine Louisianas will be coming to us from various hybridizers in Australia. Among Heather Pryor's best are BOUND FOR GLORY ('oo-'01), in "Garfield orange", PASTEL ACCENT ('01-'02), in "Vanity pink", and REGAL RICOCHET ('01-'02), a vigorous purple rebloomer. Janet Hutchinson is particularly proud of two introductions scheduled for '01-'02: PASTICHE, a light butter yellow self with darker rim, and SMILEY, a pale raspberry pink whose color can vary considerably, depending on soil and weather. And last and least (in terms of plant height, anyway!), Bernard Pryor's "Water Sprite" introductions include HEIRLOOM AMETHYST ('oo-'01), in ruffled amethyst, and ALICIA CLARE ('01-'02), a ruffled creamy white.

Moving on to the medians, MDB's will be APPLE PIPPIN, a white with green influence and blue fall haze from W. & A. Godfrey, and WISE, a clear medium violet with white beards from Tom Johnson.

Standout SDB's will be Linda Miller's DAZZLE ME (an apricot PELE child with huge black cherry spot), Marky Smith's SEAFIRE (medium blue with bright white-and-tangerine beards), Paul Black's SOFT GLOW (peach pink standards and band around warm white falls), Don Spoon's STAR PRINCE (an intense purple-black self which reblooms), and Virginia Messick's WINE SPRITZER (rosy lavender with wine spot around lavender beard). Bennett Jones will be introducing TRUE NAVY, a ruffled pure navy blue self and CAMEO QUEEN, dusty cameo pink with a deeper spot.

One of this year's top IB intros is Marky Smith's DELIRIUM, a stunning and unique luminata, butter yellow base with falls washed deep violet. It is like nothing else in the garden! Other beauties are ADOPT ME, from Jim & Vicki Craig, a rosy tan with lavender fall flush; EVERCOOL, a reblooming cool blue amoena from Terry Aitken; and SAILBOAT BAY, a reblooming pure blue amoena from Lloyd Zurbrigg.

MTB's will be the Craigs' reblooming SMASH, golden tan standards over fuchsia falls with flash of violet, and Sobek's HEART'S RADIANCE, an amethyst violet and yellow bloom with sweet fragrance. 2001 will also see an introduction from the late Mary Louise Dunderman: a classy pink plicata named CRAFTED.

BB's will be led by Paul Black's eyecatching GO FOR BOLD, medium yellow gold standards over white falls with a vivid streak of claret about halfway down the falls.

And now for the TB's!

One TB of particular interest will come to us from Italy. Although the name of FUMO NEGLI OCCHI will be difficult for American tongues, this plant from Augusto Bianco represents a significant step forward in breeding for variegated foliage. The hybridizer reports that it has never thrown an unvariegated fan! The flower is a pale blue self, and it is the result of unknown pollen on Ensminger VF seedling 189-29. The name means "Smoke in Your Eyes" and a vague pronunciation guide would be FOO-mo NEL-yee OH-key.

And for the best of the rest:

Red, Brown:

CHOCOLATE ECSTASY (Schick) very dark chocolate self

MARTINA (Beer) dark wine-red from Germany

NITRO (Hedgecock) dark red S, maroon red velvet F

NUT AND HONEY (Aitken) saturated walnut brown, honey-ochre beard

Orange, Yellow, Cream:

DANCING SUNSPOTS (Lankow) intense yellow amoena

JERSEY BOUNCE (Keppel) creamy white w/ soft yellow tips, slight pink influence

MOANA LOA FIRE (Rogers) orange brown S w/ yellow tips, chinese yellow F w/ red striping

TOTAL SILENCE (Mullin) gold self (because "silence is golden"!) White, "White-plus":

KALI JULIA (Innerst) lacy white with huge, showy red beards

LA MEIJE (Cayeux) white with slight blue edge on F, orange beards

OSAY CANUC (Burseen) white w/ purple stripes on falls around red-orange beard

SOUTHWEST SILVER (Pyburn) clear blue white

Pink, Peach:

HEIDI ALAINA (Wood) deep warm pink

JOAN'S PARTY (Burseen) light peach SA

LEAPS AND BOUNDS (Niswonger) blue-white S, unusual smoky peach-pink F.

MAGIC BLUSH (Attenberger) light peach pink

OLIVE FRANCES MEEK (Meek) darker pink S, creamy F w/ pastel pink rim

Blue:

ALPINE LACE (Kerr) light pinkish blue S over darker falls, red beards

FOLLOW THE FLEET (Moores) Marine blue with yellow beard

LATE SURPRISE (F. Rogers) hyacinth blue w/ lobelia blue F edge

MOTHER MARY (Sorensen) light wistaria blue self w/ dark blue wash in F center

NAVAJO BLUE (Niswonger) light blue self w/ hint of turquoise

Lavender, Violet, Purple:

CAPTAIN HOOK (Schick) medium blue-lavender, SA

ELEGANT SOCIETY (Wood) heavily ruffled orchid

FANCY STUFF (O. Brown) heavily laced lavender-blue

GRAPE ECHO (Pinegar) mid-orchid S and edge on magenta F, RE

HOLLYWOOD NIGHTS (R. Duncan) intense deep purple black

HONK YOUR HORN (Black) light violet-blue S, dark blue F shading to light violet, SA

LADY JANE (Lauer) light violet S and F; light salmon F rim

MAJESTIC SUMMIT (Jorgensen) heliotrope w/ poppy red beards

MERILYN MERLOT (B. Scott) deep royal purple self

MERITAGE (Schreiner) electric heliotrope w/ bronze shoulders

MIDNIGHT MAJESTY (Schreiner) dark blue-violet bitone

MIDNIGHT MASTERPIECE (Annand) velvety maroon black

MILADY GRACE (B. Scott) deep red purple self

NATHAN DANA (Borglum) blue purple, red beards

PANDORA'S PERFECTA (M. Dunn) lavender/rosy lilac blend

PARTIAL ECLIPSE (Meek) smoky S, deep blue-violet F w/ white rays, red beard

PERFECT TOUCH (Tasco) satiny dark violet self

PIANO MAN (L. Miller) white S over plum black F w/ white ray pattern

ROYAL COURTSHIP (Hager) bright purple self

SCULPTURED BEAUTY (Sorensen) dark violet blue self

SHADOW DANCING (Mullin) blue, violet, and pale blue-white child of Honky Tonk Blues

SOUTHERN THUNDER (Mullin) dark self

TWILIGHT FANCIES (Zurbrigg) deep violet amoena neglecta, RE

TWO DIFFERENT WORLDS (Moores) blue white S, dark violet blue F, strong RE

Reverse Bicolor:

DANDY CANDY (Ernst) medium purple S, creamy peach F

ROMANCER (Blyth) lavender-blue S, white F

SADDLE UP (Christopherson) dark lavender S, buffy peach F

WONDERFUL TO SEE (Kerr) blue violet S, clear yellow F

Bicolor:

BROAD SHOULDERS (Keppel) pale lavender S overlaid apricot, dahlia purple F

BURNING OAK (Attenberger) medium yellow S, plum red F

CHIPPEWA MAIDEN (Hedgecock) buff tan S, medium purple F

GOLDEN TOWER (Attenberger) burnt butterscotch S, violet F

HEARTSTRING STRUMMER (B. Johnson) white S infused pale violet blue, F white around beards to medium blue-violet on edges

HOTEL ROMA (Bianco) peachy apricot S, mauve-lavender F, from Italy

INTREPIDE (Cayeux) clear yellow S, pure purple F

McKENZIE (Pinegar) bright yellow S, brown/maroon F w/ yellow veining

NAPLES (T. Johnson) apricot S, maroon F

SENSUAL ELEGANCE (P. Black) white S, orchid F, all petals banded old gold

SUMMIT SUNRISE (Jorgensen) majolica yellow S, phlox purple F

WHO'S YOUR DADDY (Blyth) peach S, maroon F

Plicata, Luminata:

ABSOLUTE DELIGHT (R. Dunn) grape violet on white

CLOUDING (Magee) cream ivory w/ slight violet markings

COSMIC VISION (Tasco) pink flushed and dotted magenta

DAUGHTER OF STARS (Spoon) blue-purple reblooming luminata

GRAPE SODA (Annand) light lavender on white

RENATE LEITMEYER (Beer) cream yellow S, light violet plic F, from Germany

SHINE ON THRU (Christopherson) yellow ground luminata w/ purple wash

SKI RUN (Magee) sky blue S, purple on white F

SOUTHWEST TATTOOED LADY (Pyburn) rosy plum on white

Other:

ARE YOU LONESOME (Innerst) olive/grey/green self w/ mustard-green beards

CRUISE TO AUTUMN (Lauer) cinnamon S w/ lavender veins, lavender F w/ brown rim

GOOD THING (Ernst) golden honey copper S, white F w/ yellow band

QUANDARY (Keppel) white S, cream/lemon F brushed violet, flame beards

TROPICAL GLORY (Meek) warm white w/ salmon-pink hafts, poppy beards

Keep your eye out for intros from these “newer” hybridizers, introducing this year for the first or second time: Ed Attenberger, Vince Christopherson, Roger Duncan, Ben Johnson, Tom Johnson, Alton Pyburn, Bonne Scott, and Don Sorensen. I wish them all good luck.

Choosing a name for a new intro is an art in itself. In a perfect world, a name should matter little; in practice, however, a name can make or break an iris. A few of my favorites this year: BURNING OAK, DANCING SUNSPOTS, DAUGHTER OF STARS, and SCULPTURED BEAUTY, because they’re evocative and poetic; FOLLOW THE FLEET and NUT AND HONEY because they’re clever; BROAD SHOULDERS, LA MEIJE (named for a French Alp), PARTIAL ECLIPSE, SHADOW DANCING, and TOTAL SILENCE because they’re appropriate for the color or form of the iris; and JERSEY BOUNCE, because I’m from New Jersey and can’t wait to find out what the name means!

So we reach the end of this introduction of the new introductions. Naturally, I’ve seen only a few of them, and all of those from hybridizers in the Northwest. The ones that I found memorable were Keith Keppel’s **QUANDARY** and the Meeks’ **OLIVE FRANCES MEEK** (named in honor of Duane’s mom), as well as the medians **DELIRIUM** (Marky Smith) and **SMASH** (J. & V. Craig). I’m particularly looking forward to seeing the 2001 introductions in the “reverse bicolor” and “other” categories, because they represent serious progress in important hybridizing directions. ☺

Visit the AIS Website:
www.irises.org

Approved AIS Judges

for 2001

reported by Ron Nullin, Oklahoma

Key:

A: Apprentice
G: Garden
AM: Active Master
RM: Retired Master
E: Emeritus

For the name of the RVP, see the front of AIS Bulletin.

Region 1

G Bruce Bennett
G Ruth Bennett
G John H. Burton, II
G Lucy G. Burton
G Paul J. Dostie
G Mrs. L. L. Doucette
G Chandler Fulton
G Elaine Fulton
RM Mrs. Frederick W. Gadd
G Ellen M. Gallagher
G Ada Godfrey
G William Godfrey
AM Connie M. Hall
AM Dr. Warren C. Hazelton
G Mrs. Warren C. Hazelton
RM Walter Kotyk
AM Lynn F. Markham
G Stephanie A. Markham
RM Mrs. F. J. McAlice
E Dr. Currier McEwen
RM Marilyn R. Noyes Mollicone
AM Russell B. Moors
AM Mrs. Russell B. Moors
G David Nitka
E William H. Peck
AM Mrs. Maurice B. Pope, Jr.
AM Mrs. Keith Roberts
G Robert H. Sawyer
G David Schmieder
AM Mrs. David Schmieder
AM Marian H. Schmuhl

RM Mrs. Carl G. Schulz
RM Robert Sobek
RM Shirley A. Varmette
E Kenneth M. Waite
RM Mrs. Kenneth M. Waite
RM James R. Welch
G Andrew Wheller
G Deborah Wheeler
G John W. White
G Rebecca Wong
AM Peter J. Young

Region 2

G David Baehre
G Joanne Bassett
AM James G. Burke
AM Mrs. James G. Burke
A Clayton Crandall
A Diane Crandall
AM Maria Gerbracht
RM James Gristwood
G Kathleen Guest
RM Jane I. Hall
G Donna James
A Ronald James
G Robert A. Keup
G Eugene Koschara
G Mildred Koschara
G Don Lowry
G Donna Lowry
AM Wendy K. Roller
G Dr. Carolyn Schaffner
RM G. M. Schifferli
G Helen B. Schueler
G John T. Schueler
G Mary Jane Shanley
RM Mrs. Granger S. Smith
G Dorothy Stiefel
G Judith Tucholski
G Peter J. Weixlman

Region 3

RM Walter C. Betzold
RM W. H. Clough
G Charles Conklin
A Mike Corle
A Joyce Corrin
RM George W. Gerhardt
AM Harold L. Griffie
G Edmund J. Holcomb
AM Sterling U. Innerst
G Theresa Jewell
AM Mrs. R. P. Kegerise
G Jason Leader
G Patricia Leader
G Vincent Lewonski
A Dorothy Mallozzi
AM Ellwood Maltman
G Mrs. Arthur F. Martin
G Geraldine McFarland
G Robert M. McFarland
RM Mrs. Stephan Molchan
G Bettie Nutter
G Joan Roberts
G Ken Roberts
G June Roop
AM Elizabeth Unruh

Region 4

G Barbara Alexander
G David W. Bowen
G Pat Bowen
G Randell Bowen
G Sandra S. Bryan
A Glenna Castillo
G Libby A. Cross
G S. Herman Dennis, III
G Mrs. Joseph P. Dufresne
E E. Roy Epperson
E Mrs. Frank H. J. Figge
RM Mrs. Glenn Grigg, Jr.
RM Mrs. Charles L. Hare
G Ruth Brown Holbrook

G Walter Hoover
 G L. Bruce Hornstein
 AM Mrs. Paul D. Kabler
 RM Nancy Karriker
 G Anne Lowe
 G Mike Lowe
 AM Clarence E. Mahan
 G Sara R. Marley
 G Barbara O. Moeller
 G Bill Mull
 G JaNiece Mull
 G Flossie Nelson
 RM Dr. Joseph B. Parker, Jr.
 G Dennis C. Pearson
 G Bea Rogers
 G Daniel Schlanger
 A Merrick Shawe
 G William C. Smoot
 AM Richard Sparling
 G Donald M. Spoon
 G Virginia Spoon
 AM Mrs. Richard D. Steele
 E F. G. Stephenson
 G Frances Thrash
 G Ruth E. Walker
 E Mrs. Andrew C. Warner
 RM Dennis A. Wilkie
 G Carrie Winter
 G Joan R. Wood
 E Dr. Lloyd Zurbrigg

Region 5

G Mary T. Bolton
 G Brenda P. Briley
 G Patricia D. Brooks
 RM Russell Bruno
 RM Mrs. Russell Bruno
 G Alma P. Burgamy
 E Mrs. Wells E. Burton
 G R. Lee Byous
 G Ken Duke
 G Marshall L. Goforth
 G Sandra Harper
 G Carolyn R. Hawkins
 RM Nina R. Hawkins
 G Mrs. Arvid Honkanen
 G Sara T. Hood
 RM Jean House
 RM Mrs. Frank L. Johnson
 G Maggie Johnson
 G Mrs. Donald E. Jones
 RM Grady Kennedy

RM Mrs. Grady Kennedy
 G Mrs. A. J. Kirby
 G Billy J. Langston
 G Doris L. Lewallen
 AM Rev. E. L. Lineberger
 G Ted Mansfield
 G James B. McRae
 AM Michael Moller
 AM Mrs. Edward L. Paquet
 G Steve Smart
 G Wayne C. Smith, Jr.
 G Mrs. Wayne C. Smith, Jr.
 AM Robert L. Terpening
 AM Mrs. Robert L. Terpening
 G Joyce Thrift
 AM Harry Turner
 AM Joe Scott Watson
 E Mrs. A. D. Wilder
 G Fredericka R. Wilson
 G Donna Wolford
 G Harry Wolford
 AM C. E. Yearwood
 A Stephanie Zacharia

RM Virginia Maynard
 AM Lynda Miller
 AM Roger Miller
 AM Mrs. Ronald F. Miller
 AM David Mohr
 G Kathy J. Moore
 AM Nona Moore
 AM Carol Morgan
 RM Marlyn N. O. Nelson
 AM Jack E. Norrick
 G Eileen O'Melay
 G Richard O'Melay
 RM C. D. Overholser
 RM Mrs. D. Olen Rawdon
 G Sandra L. Rawlings
 G Charles Rumbaugh
 RM John D. Rusk, Jr.
 G James R. Ryan, Jr.
 RM Mrs. Harold Slessman
 E Dr. Harold L. Stahly
 AM Marjorie Starkey
 AM Fred L. Taylor
 AM Eugene D. Tremmel
 G Adrian Van Heusden
 AM Joan H. Verwilst
 G Cliff Wilde
 AM Anthony Willott
 AM Mrs. Anthony Willott
 G James H. Wilson
 AM Doris Winton
 G Debby Zook

Region 6

AM Robert A. Bauer
 G Otho Boone
 AM Mrs. Otho Boone
 G Dr. Charles A. Bunnell
 G Ann A. Cline
 AM John A. Coble
 G Mrs. David Colman
 AM Mrs. Harold E. Cooper
 AM James A. Copeland
 AM Jill Copeland
 RM Doris M. DeHaan
 G Alice Eich
 G Rolla L. Eich
 RM Marjorie S. Fillmore
 RM James J. Foreman
 G Douglas Fuhrmeyer
 G Joy Fuhrmeyer
 A Sheila Gardner
 G Dorothy L. Hartman
 G Richard Hartman
 E Emma Hobbs
 G Frances G. Holecek
 G Rose J. Holecek
 G R. M. Hollingworth
 G Howard Hughes
 G Rae J. Johnson
 G Shelly Lynn

AM Carol Morgan
 RM Marlyn N. O. Nelson
 AM Jack E. Norrick
 G Eileen O'Melay
 G Richard O'Melay
 RM C. D. Overholser
 RM Mrs. D. Olen Rawdon
 G Sandra L. Rawlings
 G Charles Rumbaugh
 RM John D. Rusk, Jr.
 G James R. Ryan, Jr.
 RM Mrs. Harold Slessman
 E Dr. Harold L. Stahly
 AM Marjorie Starkey
 AM Fred L. Taylor
 AM Eugene D. Tremmel
 G Adrian Van Heusden
 AM Joan H. Verwilst
 G Cliff Wilde
 AM Anthony Willott
 AM Mrs. Anthony Willott
 G James H. Wilson
 AM Doris Winton
 G Debby Zook

Region 7

RM Rodney A. Adams
 G George Atkins
 G Mrs. George Atkins
 G Sue Ann Barnes
 AM James M. Bingham
 AM Eleanor M. Boyson
 AM James R. Browne
 AM Larry R. Browning
 AM Mrs. Larry R. Browning
 AM Betty Burch
 AM Carol Burch
 AM James G. Burch
 RM J. R. Collins
 RM Mrs. J. R. Collins
 E Hilda Crick
 G Bobby Eakes
 G Pat Eakes
 AM James L. Ennenga
 RM Dr. Frank B. Galyon

G William L. Ginter
 G Gwen Godwin
 RM Lois Hill
 G Virginia Hill
 G Judith P. Hunt
 G M. Dean Hunt
 AM Evelyn G. Irwin
 G Leslie D. Jobe
 G Wayne Jobe
 RM Glenna Johnson
 AM Lucy Carrington Jones
 AM Mrs. Donald R. King
 RM Mrs. M. A. Luna
 AM Jerry Phillips
 AM Mrs. Jerry Phillips
 G June F. Richards
 G Deborah J. Harris-Royal
 G Earnest L. Royal
 AM Gary D. Sides
 RM George D. Slade
 RM Mrs. George D. Slade
 A Steven P. Stone
 G Robert L. Strohman
 AM Willa Swack
 G Hugh Thurman
 G Mary Thurman
 G Maynard D. VanHorn
 G Mrs. Maynard D. VanHorn
 RM William W. Vines
 RM Mrs. W. C. Wilder
 E Phillip A. Williams

Region 8

RM Mrs. Peter J. Baukus
 AM Mrs. Melvin Bausch
 AM Melvin Bausch
 RM A. G. Blodgett
 G Janice M. Broich
 G Howard Brookins
 AM Joan Cooper
 AM Mrs. R. W. Dalgaard
 G W. E. Doehe
 G William C. Daugherty
 G M. Lynne Fell
 RM Mrs. DuWayne Giefer
 AM Mrs. David Hempel
 G Tracy W. Jennings
 G Edwin W. Kelsey
 RM Dr. Donald Koza
 AM W. A. Machulak
 AM Mrs. W. A. Machulak
 RM Lavone R. Ney

Region 9

G Victoria Sibell
 RM Mrs. Wilbert G. Sindt
 RM Mildred Stover
 A Lloyd Webber
 G Marlene Wolinski
 G Jack Worel

G Victoria Sibell
 RM Mrs. Wilbert G. Sindt
 RM Mildred Stover
 A Lloyd Webber
 G Marlene Wolinski
 G Jack Worel

Region 10

RM Aline Arceneaux
 RM Mrs. C. W. Arny, Jr.
 G Elaine Bourque
 AM Mrs. James J. Deegan
 G Sandy Duhon
 RM Marvin A. Granger
 G Dorman Haymon
 AM Rusty Ostheimer
 AM Mrs. Hubert Rena

Region 11

AM Eileen Allison
 G Ken Baier
 G Rose Mary Baier
 AM Donna Bowers
 AM Jerry C. Bowers
 G Claudia H. Brown
 RM Donald Chadd
 G Carol L. Coleman
 G Louisa Cone
 G Irene DeRose
 AM R. W. Gray
 AM Mrs. R. W. Gray
 RM Robert L. Jensen
 G Carryl Meyer
 G Lucille Pinkston
 A Edna V. Rosenbaum
 A Charles Stanley
 G Alverta Symes
 G Angelique Violette

Region 12

AM Hyram L. Ames
 RM D. C. Anderson
 A Susan Boyce
 G Joseph A. Brown
 RM Mrs. David E. Burton
 RM Larene B. Done
 AM Charlotte T. Easter
 G Charell Harris
 G Jared Harris
 G B. Brad Kasperek
 G Kathie Kasperek
 G Joan R. McFadden
 G Thomas J. Miller
 AM Suzanne Parry
 AM Cathy Hagan Reed
 G Lois W. Reeder
 A Leon Robertson
 AM Mrs. Merlin Tams
 AM DeRay Taylor
 AM Keith H. Wagstaff
 AM Jeffrey L. Walters
 A L. Val Wilson

Region 13

AM Ellen Abrego
 AM Thomas Abrego
 RM Patricia Adams
 AM Barbara Aitken
 AM Terry Aitken
 G Elaine Bessette

AM Paul W. Black
 G Carole Breedlove
 AM Dr. Alan D. Brooks
 G Caroline Burke
 G Rita E. Butler
 G Don Clark
 G Deborah A. Cole
 AM Mrs. Joe Del Judge
 AM Joanne Mentz Derr
 RM F. Duncan Eader
 G Arnold W. Ferguson
 G Bruce Filardi
 G Lynn Finkel
 G Barbara E. Flynn
 AM Frank J. Foster
 G Debra Gillespie
 G Mildred Grow
 AM Doris K. Hale
 AM Paul Harms
 G Chad Harris
 AM Fran Hawk
 G Tom Johnson
 E Bennett C. Jones
 E Keith Keppel
 G Carla Lankow
 AM George F. Lankow
 RM Evelyn R. Lemire
 G John W. Ludi
 G Keith McNames
 RM Duane E. Meek
 RM Joyce Meek
 AM Frank H. Nickell
 RM Warren E. Noyes
 RM Donald L. Peterson
 RM Fern E. Pilley
 G Tracy Plotner
 G William E. Plotner
 E Lorena M. Reid
 AM Gerald L. Richardson
 RM Jayne Ritchie
 AM David Schreiner
 AM Ray Schreiner
 AM Doris E. Shinn
 AM David Silverberg
 RM Mrs. S. M. Sisley
 G Marky D. Smith
 RM Chet W. Tompkins
 RM Mrs. Lewis Trout
 AM Julius Wadekamper
 E Jean E. Witt

Region 14

G Helen Blivin
 AM Carl H. Boswell
 AM Mrs. Carl H. Boswell
 A Kathy Braaten
 RM Bob Brooks
 G Anna Cadd
 G David Cadd
 AM Mrs. Jack H. Cochran
 AM Mrs. Mark Condo
 A Bruce Connell
 AM Glenn F. Corlew
 RM Mrs. John Coscarelly
 A Betty Coyle
 G Christine Dickinson
 E Sidney P. DuBose
 G Abe Feuerstein
 E Joseph J. Ghio
 RM Alleah B. Haley
 AM Gigi Hall
 A Linda Harding
 RM Marilyn R. Harlow
 AM Evelyn Hayes
 RM Marilyn Holloway
 AM Michael O. Howard
 AM Berkeley Hunt
 G Barry Ivens
 G J. Nelson Jones
 G John I. Jones
 G Frederick J. Kerr
 AM Virginia Keyser
 G Marcy Lauer
 G Richard Lauer
 G Kitty Loberg
 A Sandy Mann
 RM Maryann Manning
 RM William R. Maryott
 G Ed Matheny, III
 AM Hal Mattos
 G Joanne McGrew
 G Mary T. Maxwell
 AM Mrs. William Messick
 A Amelia Murray
 AM Jean Near
 RM Roger R. Nelson
 G Gordon Nicholson
 G Lorraine Nicholson
 AM Mrs. R. Nelson Nicholson
 G Mrs. John D. O'Brien
 RM Capt. M. C. Osborne
 G Claudia Owen
 G William T. Owen

AM Fred C. Parvin
 G Jean Paul
 A Joanne Prass-Jones
 G Joyce Ragle
 AM Lucile Ray
 AM Alan D. Robbins
 G Ollie D. Rujst
 G George H. Sutton
 G Margaret Sutton
 AM Richard Tasco
 RM Mrs. Sven I. Thoolen
 G Shirley Trio
 G Hiromi Uyeda
 G Dorlene Waite
 G F. Lee Wald
 G Howard Wald
 AM Mrs. W. G. Waters
 AM Dr. John H. Weiler
 G Barbara Whitley
 G James Whitley
 A Lynn Williams
 AM Bryce Williamson
 A Ronald Wolberg
 RM Vernon Wood
 A Mary Ann Worth
 G Sharon Wylie

Region 15

G Gail M. Barnhill
 E Mrs. William E. Barr
 G Irene Benton
 G Peggy Carpenter
 RM Thelma H. Carrington
 G Hazel E. Carson
 RM Janice Chesnik
 A Kathy Chilton
 RM Ralph Conrad
 RM Mrs. Ralph Conrad
 G Olen Joe Daugherty
 RM Dolores Denney
 RM Mrs. Donald Dopke
 A Barbara Evans
 G Eileen Fiumara
 RM Mrs. Harry B. Frey
 G Derry Gerald
 G Jim Giles
 G Georgia I. Gudykunst
 A W. D. D. Herman-Walker
 AM Dr. Herbert C. Holk
 AM Mrs. Herbert C. Holk
 AM Debbie Humphreys
 AM James H. Jones

G Ardi Kary
 G Marjorie Larson
 RM Eleanor McCown
 G Lynn McIlwain
 G Mrs. David Mogil
 AM Edward Murray
 G Joella R. Olson
 E Mrs. Edward Owen
 A Jane C. Parks
 A Marilyn Pecararo
 G Jeanne C. Plank
 G James Puckett
 G John H. Reinschmidt
 G Bill Rinehart
 G Sharlyn Rocha
 G Steven Rocha
 G D. L. Shpeard
 AM Mrs. D. L. Shepard
 G Gerald C. Snyder
 RM Robert O. Sorensen
 G Mary Ann Spurlock
 G Hilward Stenson
 RM Kay Tearington
 G Jane G. Troutman
 E Marion R. Walker
 G Jack Weber
 AM Verona Wiekhorst
 AM Warren Wiekhorst
 AM John Wight

Region 16

G Catherine Boyko
 G Chuck Chapman
 G Raymond Ives
 AM Verna Laurin
 G Maureen Mark
 G Daniel P. McMillen
 AM Gloria McMillen
 G Ken Viner

Region 17

G E. A. Addington
 G Robert W. Alexander
 G Alene Arnold
 G Dr. L. M. Begley
 G Dana Brown
 G Vernon Brown
 RM Mrs. Lawrence Burt
 G Pat Byrne
 E Marie Caillet
 G J. Farron Campbell
 G Edna Carrington

RM Dr. Jesse W. Collier
 E Mrs. Walter Colquitt
 AM Billie G. Corbell
 AM Jim D. Coward
 AM Luella Danielson
 RM Mrs. Dee Davis
 A Rosemary English
 RM Mrs. Doyle Gray
 AM Gordon Green
 AM Hazel M. Haik
 G Nona Hoecker
 AM Mrs. Charles A. Howard
 G Mary L. Huggins
 RM Mrs. J. H. Jamieson
 G Jim Keefe
 AM Mrs. Vernon H. Keesee
 RM Mrs. Harley L. King
 G Helen Kinnamon
 G John Kinnamon
 G David Lamb
 AM Peggy Lamb
 RM W. D. Lee
 G Bonnie Nichols
 AM Hooker Nichols
 RM William K. Patton
 G John Phillips
 G Mrs. John Phillips
 RM Sam Reece
 E Mrs. C. C. Rockwell, Jr.
 G Patsy L. Rosen
 A Donald W. Rude
 G Charlene M. Seifert
 G Keith A. Smith
 RM Frank L. Stephens
 G Debra Strauss
 G Ellen Sullivan
 RM Mrs. A. M. Tallmon
 G Mary Wilber
 G Diana L. Winship
 RM Mrs. Leon C. Wolford

Region 18

AM Mrs. L. E. Anderson
 G Patricia Ardisonne
 AM Mrs. August Bellagamba
 RM Clifford W. Benson
 AM Harry J. Boyd
 AM Mrs. Harry J. Boyd
 G Lee Charlton
 G Paula Charlton
 RM Mrs. James Lee Chism
 G Jon Marc Cliburn
 AM Donald Delmez
 RM Mrs. Ralph H. Dierkes
 AM Geneva Dies
 G Jan P. Bates Durham
 G Barbara Fouts
 G Kevin Gormley
 G Rita Gormley
 G Mike Hargrove
 G Jim Hedgecock
 AM Calvin H. Helsley
 G Nyla Hughes
 AM Vince Italian
 G Mitch Jameson
 G Audrey Judy
 G Dan C. Judy
 G Judy Keisling
 G Ray Keisling
 G Joan Kellar
 RM Mrs. Edwin W. Knight
 G Betty Langston-Macon
 G Doris J. Loveland
 G James E. Loveland
 RM Mrs. Robert Mark
 AM Mrs. M. J. McHugh
 G Kevin J. Morley
 AM James W. Morris
 AM Mrs. James W. Morris
 G James Murrain
 G Carolyn Needham
 G Barbara Nicodemus
 E O. D. Niswonger
 RM Katherine Perry
 G Robert Pries
 AM Riley Probst
 RM James Rasmussen
 RM Helen E. Reynolds
 RM Mrs. Robert H. Robinson
 RM Elvan ERoderick
 RM Mrs. Elvan E. Roderick
 A Cindy Rust
 A Stephanie Rust
 G Barbara Schuette
 G Mrs. Von Smith
 G Mrs. Stephen Stevens
 G Stephen Stevens
 AM Eric Tankesley-Clarke
 AM Robert Tankesley-Clarke
 G Mike Theissen
 G Dennis VanLanduyt
 AM Annette J. Vincent
 G James W. Waddick
 G Clancy L. Walz

RM George W. Warner, Jr.
 G Adrian Wills
 G Naida Wills
 G James Winzer
 G Annabelle Wiseman
 G Mary Wyss

Region 19

RM Elizabeth Aulicky
 AM Raymond J. Blicharz
 G Chun Fan
 A Cathy Fulmer
 G Erin Marie Griner
 G Joseph John Griner
 G Margaret Griner
 G Martha Ann Griner
 RM Dr. Norman H. Noe
 AM C. B. Reeves, Jr.
 AM Mrs. C. B. Reeves, Jr.
 G Raymond J. Rogers
 AM Nancy Szmuriga
 A Curtis A. Taylor
 G Mary Townsend
 E Elizabeth A. Wood

REGION 20

A Martha Artzberger
 G Lowell Baumunk, III
 G Glenna R. Chapman
 AM Duane W. Daily
 G Kayellen R. Daily
 AM Linda M. Doty
 E Dr. Jack R. Durrance
 G Carol Eacker
 G Russell Eacker
 G Francine M. Evers
 E Catherine Long Gates
 AM Dennis B. Gates
 RM Joseph H. Hoage
 AM Mrs. Morris James
 RM Dr. Carl Jorgensen
 G Jerilynn Knudtson
 G John Knudtson
 AM Roy G. Krug
 G Barbara Lewis
 E Everett Long
 G Lynda D. Love
 AM Thomas L. Magee
 AM Suzanne McCarthy
 G Ellen McIntosh
 A Robert McIntosh
 AM David G. Miller
 G Patricia Morgan

RM Mrs. Dwane Quinn
 AM Betty Roberts
 G Robert E. Stetson, II
 A Lisa Tsiao

Region 21

AM Mickey S. Anson
 RM Ardeh J. Bailey
 RM Irene H. Boardman
 G Marian Burleigh
 A Marie Cain
 RM C. T. Claussen
 RM Signey Claussen
 E Allan G. Ensminger
 RM Mary Ferguson
 G Vincent Fox
 G Mrs. Vincent Fox
 RM Gene Gaddie
 AM Larry Harder
 AM Charles C. Hemmer
 AM Mrs. Charles C. Hemmer
 AM Michael C. Hemmer
 AM Patrick R. Hemmer
 RM Lester Hildenbrandt
 RM Mrs. Leon N. Hockett
 RM Jim Hummel
 RM Vera Hummel
 AM Marjorie A. Jansen
 RM Dorothy M. Johnson
 AM Eugene J. Kalkwarf
 G Christa Kohout
 G Richard Kohout
 AM Carolyn D. Lingenfelter
 A Andrew Lucas
 G James Lucas
 RM Barbara Mapes
 AM Roger P. Mazur
 G LeRoy Meiningier
 A Leland Nelson
 G Neal H. Pohlman
 G Calvin H. Reuter
 G Viola Schreiner
 AM V. O. Sellers
 RM Mrs. Kempton Settle
 G Tim Stanek
 G Barrett Stoll
 AM Lynn Stoll
 A Connie Vaneciek
 A Dorothy Ver Hay
 G Gary E. White
 G Henry Wulf
 AM Opal Wulf

Region 22

RM Wiley Abshire
 G Ann D. Barrows
 A Linda Bell
 G James B. Bledsoe
 G Doris Boyles
 G Louise Carson
 G Peggy J. Chumley
 G Mrs. Willie C. Cooper
 A Maureen Corder
 AM C. A. Cromwell
 AM Mrs. C. Wayne Drumm
 AM Perry Dyer
 RM Mrs. Dan Edelman
 G Leigh M. Ellis
 AM Mrs. Howard Estes
 G M. D. Faith
 G Ramona French
 G Carol Goldsberry
 AM Paul W. Gossett
 G Bonnie Hadaway
 G June P. Hardy
 AM James N. Hawley
 RM Rilla M. Hickerson
 G Greer Holland
 G MaryAnn Holman
 E Dorothy C. Howard
 AM Lavera Johnson
 G Helen Jones
 RM W. E. Jones
 RM Mrs. Charles E. Kenney
 G Mrs. Trevor Lyons
 AM Betty Lou McMartin
 G F. W. McVicker
 G Robert Medina
 G Peggy Meekins
 RM Leonard J. Michel
 RM Richard E. Morgan
 E Ronald Mullin
 E Perry L. Parrish
 G Kathy L. Poore
 G Lyle Reininger
 G Randy Renner
 G James W. Russell
 AM Marthella Shoemake
 G Aline Smith
 G Fred J. Smith
 G James K. Smith
 G Mary A. Smith
 RM Susie Smith
 RM Mrs. Cyrus Stanley
 RM L. D. Stayer

RM Mrs. L. D. Stayer
 AM Philip Stonecipher
 AM Mrs. Philip Stonecipher
 A Mary G. Sullivan
 G Patricia Tanton
 G Mary P. Watson
 G Leeroy E. Will
 G Beatrice A. Williams
 G Mrs. John H. Williams

Region 23

G Karen Bergamo
 AM Mrs. Milton J. Clauser
 AM Bill R. Coursey
 A Helen Crotty
 G Phil Doonan
 AM Sara Doonan
 G Patricia J. Feather
 AM Barbara J. Figge
 G Ken Fladager
 RM Wilma Friedline
 G Doug Goodnight
 G Dorothy Gordon
 G Williams S. Huey
 G Reita Jordan
 G Dr. Scott Jordan
 RM Mrs. Douglas Latimer
 G Tom Tadfor Little
 RM Robert A. Mallory
 G Alma G. Maxwell
 G Peter R. McGrath
 G Pegi Naranjo
 RM George A. Nickel
 AM Maxine Perkins

G Patricia Randall
 A Cindy Rivera
 G Audrey C. Roe
 AM Mrs. Howard Shockey
 RM Mrs. Robert D. Steele
 AM Floyd Stopani
 AM Helen Stopani
 G Mary Ellen Tofoya
 AM Mrs. Walter C. White

Region 24

RM B. Howard Camp
 RM Mrs. B. Howard Camp
 AM Margaret Connally
 G Sue Copeland
 G Jane C. Desmond
 AM T. A. Gilliam
 G Scott W. Grant
 G Clara B. Henderson
 A Billie Lynn Jones
 AM J. W. Kuykendall, Jr.
 AM Mrs. J. W. Kuykendall, Jr.
 AM Joe M. Langdon
 AM Mrs. Joe M. Langdon
 AM Nan Elizabeth Miles
 E Mrs. Raymond Miller
 AM Walter Moores
 AM Edith Mitchell Nevels
 A Carrie Rice
 AM Donald R. Saxton
 AM Mrs. Donald R. Saxton
 RM Sarah Scruggs
 AM Mrs. R. P. VanValkenburgh

Australia

AM John O. Baldwin
 G Barry Blyth
 AM Graeme Grosvenor
 G John C. Taylor

Belgium

G Koen Engelen
 G Willy Hublau

England

G C. E. C. Bartlett
 E H. R. Jeffs
 AM G. H. Preston
 G John C. Russell
 RM N. K. Scopes

France

AM Jean Cayeux
 RM Jean Segui

Germany

G Rainer Zeh

Italy

G Anne Barbetti
 G Augusto Bianco
 G Fabio Bigazzi
 G Maria Carla Monaco
 G Valeria Pallesi Romoli
 RM Gian Luigi Sani
 G Doralisa Ravenni Santi

Japan

AM Akira Horinaka
 G Hiroshi Shimizu

**Color Ad
 Price Decrease!
 See page 129.**

Exhibition Committee Report

2000

by S. Roy Epperson, Exhibitions Chair

FOR THE YEAR 2000, 187 SHOW SCHEDULES WERE EVALUATED/APPROVED. Of these, 181 were spring shows and 6 were fall shows. 6 spring shows were cancelled. There was at least one show scheduled in each Region, except Region 16 (Canada). Region 22 (Arkansas and Oklahoma) mounted the most shows—sixteen!

Thirteen shows earned Youth Silver and Bronze Medals, 104 shows had Adult Artistic Divisions and awarded the Best Design of Show Certificate/Rosette, 26 shows awarded Youth Best Design of Show Certificates/Rosettes.

Tall bearded irises were chosen Best Specimen at 115 shows, Louisiana 9, spuria 9, siberians 8, japanese 7, and species 5. All other iris types had fewer than 5 as Best Specimen of Show.

The Nelson Award to honor the iris which has most often been selected Best Specimen of the Show in an AIS accredited show during 2000 is a tie between DUSKY CHALLENGER and CONJURATION. (Four spring shows still have not been reported.) No other iris cultivar was selected Best Specimen more than two times. ☙



CONJURATION (above)
DUSKY CHALLENGER (at right)



AIS Shows

Winners of 2000

Place of Show	Silver Medal	Bronze Medal	Best Specimen	Exhibitor
Region 1				
Auburn, ME	The Moors	The Whites	IDOL'S DREAM (TB)	The Whites
Auburn, ME	Paul Dostie	The Moors	DIRIGO PINK MILESTONE (JI)	The Whites
Shelburne Falls, MA	Andrew Wheeler	Deborah Wheeler	I. cartholiae (SPEC)	Deborah Wheeler
South Paris, ME	The Hazeltons	The Whites	BEDFORD LILAC (SDB)	Julie Baither
Waltham, MA	J. Sacks & M. Schafer	The Schmieders	I. tectorum (SPEC)	J. Sacks & M. Shafer
Region 2				
Albany, NY	Robert Keup	Kathryn Mohr	JESSE'S SONG (TB)	Bruce Baird
Buffalo, NY	Robert Hutchings	Greg Schifferli	BONNIE DAVENPORT (TB)	Greg Schifferli
Glens Falls, NY	Bob Keup	Nancy Haley	BERLIN PURPLE WINE (SIB)	Bob Keup
Johnson City, NY	Dorothy Stiefel	Mildred Horak	MYSTERIOUS MONIQUE (Laev)	Bob Keup
Poughkeepsie, NY	Bob Keup	Ella & Jerry Murphy	SULTAN'S RUBY (SIB)	Bob Keup
Syracuse, NY	Dorothy Stiefel	Bob Keup	FIRECRACKER (TB)	Marianne Himpler
Region 3				
Pittsburgh, PA	Mike Corle	Larry Grundler	CONJURATION (TB)	Larry Grundler
Smryna, DE	Joyce Corrin	Theresa Jewell	BUMBLEBEE DEELITE (MTB)	Gracie Leathrum
Townsend, DE	R. Dennis Hager	June Roop	NIGHT FLASH (SPEC)	R. Dennis Hager
York, PA	E. Jay Holcomb	Linda Golembieski	PERFECT INTERLUDE (TB)	Linda Golembieski
York, PA	Larry Westfall	Sterling Innerst	CROWNING MOMENT (JI)	Larry Westfall
Region 4				
Beltsville, MD	Ginny Spoon	Clarence Mahan	PIPI LONGSTOCKINGS (SDB)	Ginny Spoon
Charlotte, NC	Dave Hull	Frieda Allen	CONJURATION (TB)	Frieda Allen
Fairfax, VA	Clarence Mahan	Ginny Spoon	CHESHIRE CAT (TB)	Ginny Spoon
Fredericksburg, VA	Jim & Gina Schroetter	Sharon Lipiec	PETITE MONET (MTB)	Nina Cox
Henderson, NC	Marshall Goforth	Randell & Pat Bowen	COTTON PLANTATION (LA)	Randell & Pat Bowen
Henderson, NC	Norma Murphy	Walter Hoover	FRECKLED GEISHA (JI)	Betsy Higgins
Salisbury, MD	Joan Wood	Brenda Walker	EVERYTHING PLUS (TB)	Joan Wood
Towson, MD	Carol Warner	Dr. L. Bruce Hornstein	DEMURE ILLINI (SIB)	Carol Warner
Wheaton, MD	Carol Warner	Dr. L. Bruce Hornstein	LIGHT AT DAWN (JI)	Carol Warner
Winchester, VA	TIE: Phyllis Soine and Jerry Coates		HARVEST OF MEMORIES	Ginny Spoon
Region 5				
Gaffney, SC	Marshall Goforth	Randell & Pat Bowen	TITAN'S GLORY (TB)	Randell & Pat Bowen
Griffin, GA	Don & Betty Jones	Lucy Stewart	SINFONIETTA (LA)	Don & Betty Jones
Milledgeville, GA	Joe Scott Watson	Ernest Yearwood	TATIANA (TB)	Laura Lewis
Summerville, SC	Betty Black	Claire Honkanen	NADA (?)	Elva Reese
Tucker, GA	Mark & Patti Franklin	James B. McRae	BLENHEIM ROYAL (TB)	Brenda Stickland
Region 6				
Akron, OH	Anthony & Dorothy Willott	Wilford James	SPIN DOCTOR (TB)	Wilford (Mike) James
Akron, OH	Anthony & Dorothy Willott	Shelley Lynn	ROY DAVIDSON (SPEC-X)	Anthony & Dorothy Willott
Cleveland, OH	Anthony & Dorothy Willott	Wilford James	BROWNBERRY (BB)	Anthony & Dorothy Willott
Columbus, OH	T. D. Knapp	Anna Saurers	CONJURATION (TB)	T. D. Knapp
Fort Wayne, IN	Dale Poling	Roger & Lynda Miller	CONJURATION (TB)	Roger & Lynda Miller
Grand Rapids, MI	Marilyn Gendrikovs	Leta Kwiatkowski	BEVERLY SILLS (TB)	Eugene Kozak
Grand Rapids, MI	Diana Langshaw	Mike Moorman	DUSKY CHALLENGER (TB)	Lois Wier
Indianapolis, IN	Charles Bunnell	Roger & Lynda Miller	TORCHED WITCH (BB)	Roger & Lynda Miller
Kalamazoo, MI	Ensata Gardens	Diana Langshaw	OVER IN GLORYLAND (SIB)	Ensata Gardens
Lansing, MI	Ruth Esper	Jack Sharpe	CONJURATION (TB)	Jack Sharpe
Mansfield, OH	James R. Ryan	Rosemary Tanner	DUSKY CHALLENGER (TB)	Carol Ridenhour
Middletown, OH	Sandra L. Rawlings	George/Kathryn McGowan	AGGRESSIVELY FORWARD (TB)	John & Deborah Bruce
Mio, MI	Evelyn Momrik	Christina Sparks	PLAYGIRL (TB)	Evelyn Momrik
Muncie, IN	Roger & Lynda Miller	Jack Norrick	PROUD TRADITION (TB)	Chadd Rector
Royal Oak, MI	Donna Calhoun	Joan Kepf	IN PERSON (TB)	Ken & Mikel Rohr

Place of Show	Silver Medal	Bronze Medal	Best Specimen	Exhibitor
Region 7				
Dresden, TN	Earnest & Deborah Royal	Jim & Roy Davis	WELCH'S REWARD (MTB)	Earnest & Deborah Royal
Florence, KY	Jess & Elsie Laws	Betty Cutlip	LACED ARTISTRY (TB)	Mary Grise
Jackson, TN	Joe & Imogene Zacharzuk	Bill Hurt	BERTWHISTLE (TB)	Joe & Imogene Zacharzuk
Knoxville, TN	John Couturier	Tom Parkhill	GYPSY ROMANCE (TB)	John Couturier
Lebanon, TN	Russell Watson	Betty Wilkins	LACEY JABOT (TB)	Inez Turns
Lexington, KY	The Van Hooks	Rita Adkins	PINBALL WIZARD (TB)	Hugh Thurman
Louisville, KY	Sheila F. Gardner	Paul Owen	SHARLEE (TB)	Janet Hawel
Memphis, TN	Brenda Belus	Elke Longsworth	FIGURE HEAD (TB)	Elke Longsworth
Memphis, TN	Bob Batterman	James Russell	PENNY ROYAL PASSION (TB)	Bob Batterman
Murfreesboro, TN	Russell & Jill Watson	Sue & Layton Gossage	BORN TO EXCEED (TB)	Betty D. Wilkins
Nashville, TN	Darnell Hester	Bill Hurt	FEATURE ATTRACTION (TB)	Judy & Darnell Hester
Paris, TN	Carol Ann Carney	Joy Seckler	SWINGTOWN (TB)	Carol Ann Carney
Region 8				
Blaine, MN	Jack Worel	William Dougherty	LYDIA WINTER (SIB)	Jack Worel
Blaine, MN	Saraj Cater	Francine Nelson	PLEATED GOWN (TB)	Jack Worel
Hales Corner, WI	Linda Doffek	Francis Rogers	JEWELER'S ART (TB)	Linda Doffek
Hales Corner, WI	Francis Rogers	Dorothy Vande	ORANGE SLICES (TB)	Francis Rogers
Madison, WI	Karen Eirich	Judith Baker	FRAGRANT LILAC (TB)	Laurie Mueller
Minneota, MN	Rita Dovre	Marie Hovland	MARY FRANCIS (TB)	Rita Engels
Region 9				
Alton, IL	Lu & Orville Dickhaut	Nancy Pocklington	PHIL EDINGER (SPEC-X)	Lu & Orville Dickhaut
Glencoe, IL	Alice Simon	Marge McCannon	RARE TREAT (TB)	Marge McCannon
Hinsdale, IL	Charles Simon	Joan Moritz	SOLAR IMPASSE (TB)	Charles Simon
Hinsdale, IL	Charles Simon	Alice Kudrna	CONJURATION (TB)	Brice Reider
Mattoon, IL	Jerry & Melody Wilhoit	Cynthia Kermode	CHOCOLATE FUDGE (SPU)	Jerry & Melody Wilhoit
Region 10				
Lafayette, LA	Gordon Rabalais	Chuck Walkowiak	LIGHTNING QUICK (LA)	Dorman Haymon
Region 11				
Boise, ID	Sharon Touchstone	Gordon Chester	MY SHADOW (TB)	Chuck Stanley
Missoula, MT	Gary Clark	Claudia Brown	SILVERADO (TB)	Faye Pedersen
Ontario, OR	Louisa Cone	Walter Arndt & Eileen Allison	INDIGO PRINCESS (TB)	Helen Homme
Region 12				
Logan, UT	Jared Harris	Jeffrey Walters	CONJURATION (TB)	Tom Bahler
Salt Lake City, UT	Cathy Hagan Reed	Joe Brown	MING (IB)	Brad & Kathie Kasperck
Salt Lake City, UT	Jeffrey Walters	Val & Barbara Wilson	SONG OF NORWAY (TB)	Joe Brown
Region 13				
Bellevue, WA	Richard Greenberg	Jean Witt	ENBEE DEEAYCH (SIB)	Richard Greenberg
Lake Forest Park, WA	Richard Greenberg	Sterling Okase	VIRGINIA LYLE (MTB)	David Pettenski
Salem, OR	Keith Keppel	Paul Black	ONLOOKER (AB)	Paul Black
Spokane, WA	Norma R. Lunden	Darroll Daniel	PERFECT INTERLUDE (TB)	Darroll Daniel
Vancouver, WA	Chad Harris	John Ludi	I. graminea (SPEC)	Chad Harris
Vancouver, WA	Chad Harris	John Ludi	FROSTED INTRIGUE (JI)	Chad Harris
Walla Walla, WA	Margaret McCrae	George Dietrich	CONJURATION (TB)	George Dietrich
Yakima, WA	Marjorie Clements	Mildred Grow	I'VE GOT RHYTHM (TB)	Mildred Grow
Region 14				
Auburn, CA	Yvette Meador	Art Bern	ZULU CHIEF (SPU)	Kathy Braaten
Campbell, CA	George Sutton	Elena Laborde	FLOWER SHOWER (SDB)	George Sutton
Capitola, CA	Elena Laborde	Lois Belardi	TITAN'S GLORY (TB)	Charley Kearns
Chico, CA	Bob & Irene Annand	Carolyn Melf	JAZZEBEL (TB)	Carolyn Melf
Chico, CA	Bob Annand	Bill Owen	GRAY Poupon (SDB)	Shirley Clark
Fresno, CA	George Sutton	Bill Tyson	I. fulva (SPEC)	Ed Matheny III
Henderson, NV	Helen Rusk	Oscar Schick	PLEASANT COMPANY (TB)	Helen Cochran
Las Vegas, NV	Leo Silva	Berkely Hunt	LOOK AGAIN (SPU)	Dorlene White
Oakland, CA	Alan Robbins	Bob & Janet Canning	SEA ADMIRAL (CA)	Bob & Janet Canning
Palo Alto, CA	D & D Eigenman	Lisa Ayala	LOS CALIFORNIOS (CA)	John Stremel
Redding, CA	Phyllis O'Hanlon	Edna Bryceson	COLLETTE (TB)	Phyllis O'Hanlon
Sacramento, CA	Kathy Braaten	Bertha Brownlee	PAMELA HART (LA)	Kathy Braaten
Santa Rosa, CA	Anna & David Cadd	Nancy Fortner	BELIZE (SPU)	Anna & David Cadd
Walnut Creek, CA	Alan Robbins	Bob & Janet Canning	OFFERING (SPU)	Bob & Janet Canning

Place of Show	Silver Medal	Bronze Medal	Best Specimen	Exhibitor
Region 15				
Arcadia, CA	Lynn McIlwain	Kim Ung	LADY FRIEND (TB)	Mike Monninger
Northridge, CA	Randy Squires	Peter DeSantis	SINFONIETTA (LA)	Randy Squires
Phoenix AZ	Francelle Edwards	Joyce Poling	SKATING PARTY (TB)	Francelle Edwards
Riverside, CA	Jim Giles	Mike Monninger	DYNAMITE (TB)	Kim Ung
San Diego, CA	Steve & Sharlyn Rocha	Ken & Christie Pierson	HONEY DOVE (AR)	Steve & Sharlyn Rocha
Tucson, AZ	Kathy Chilton	Perri Larson	NAVY BLUES (TB)	Barbara Evans
Region 17				
Addison, TX	Dell Perry	Ken & Penny Maxham	CLARA ELLEN (SPU)	Jim Landers
Amarillo, TX	Kenneth Mazurek	Dawn Boyer	DIDDLER (TB)	Kenneth Mazurek
Austin, TX	Carol Canfield	Jim Landers	LOTTA PLICATA (TB)	Jim Landers
Cleburne, TX	Myrtle Hodges	Lois Wall	OH JAMAICA (TB)	Janet Wallace
Denison, TX	Thomas W. Nuckols	Martha McDowell	KNOCK EM DEAD (TB)	Thomas W. Nuckols
Ft. Worth, TX	Joe Spears	Keith Smith	ACOMA (TB)	Joe Spears
Iowa Park, TX	Annetta Reusch	William Parker, Jr.	ROMANTIC MOOD (TB)	Annetta Reusch
Lubbock, TX	Dana Brown	Bill Skillman	ARCHIE OWEN (SPU)	Glenna Keesee
Midland, TX	Dr. John Howlett	Ann Carnes	TARLETON (TB)	Stephanie Strauss
Odessa, TX	Dr. John Howlett	Ann Carnes	AROUND MIDNIGHT (TB)	Ann Carnes
Sherman, TX	Charles & Jan Montgomery	Alisa Peters	DUSKY CHALLENGER (TB)	Lois Jennings
Waco, TX	Hazel Halk	Doris Harts	OLYMPIAD (TB)	Nina Hunt
Region 18				
Barnhart, MO	Jim Morris	Lee Charlton	MASKED BANDIT (IB)	Jim Morris
Cape Girardeau, MO	Dan & Nancy Elliott	Clyde Hahn	DUSKY CHALLENGER (TB)	Dan & Nancy Elliott
Dodge City, KS	J. C. Sinclair	Robert Preston	SWEET MUSETTE (TB)	Alice R. Sinclair
Garden City, KS	Wanda Smith	Gail Gillam DaSilva	LITTLE ENGRAVED (AB)	Duane Van Dolah
Garden City, KS	J. C. Sinclair	Wanda Smith	DUSKY CHALLENGER (TB)	J. C. Sinclair
Hutchinson, KS	Kendal Rohr	JoAnne Hooker	SOPHISTICATION (TB)	Shirley Masterson
Olathe, KS	Carolyn Needham	Ray & Judy Keisling	BUTTERMILK BLUSH (TB)	Carolyn Needham
Parsons, KS	John Spare	Mary Lou Chapman	CONJURATION (TB)	Mary Lou Chapman
Springfield, MO	Barbara Nicodemus	Calvin Helsley	DUSKY CHALLENGER (TB)	Alan Benton
St. Joseph, MO	Beverly Hoyt	Ray & Judy Keisling	GRAND WALTZ (TB)	Gary & Gail Kincaid
St. Louis, MO	Orville & Lu Dickhaut	Don Delfmez	BLUE SPRITZ (J1)	Riley Probst
Washington, MO	Cindy Rust	FOUR-WAY TIE	BROTHER CARL (TB)	Stephanie Rust
		Dan Judy, Carol Kuhlmann, Jim Loveland, Barbara Schuette		
Washington, MO	Mike Theissen	Carol Kuhlmann	CRANBERRY ICE (TB)	Mike Theissen
Wichita, KS	Kendal Rohr	Mike Hargrave	EVERYTHING PLUS (TB)	Patricia Ardisonne
Wichita, KS	Patricia Ardisonne	Terry Schmidt	ROSETTE WINE (TB)	Alice Markley
Region 19				
Lawrenceville, NJ	Wm. & Martha Griner	Catherine Fulmer	TRIM THE VELVET (SIB)	Erin, Wm. & Martha Griner
Medford, NJ	Joe & Margo Griner	Catherine Fulmer	GOLD BOUND (J1)	Joe & Margo Griner
Morristown, NJ	Ray Rogers	Joe & Margo Griner	WISHFUL THINKING (TB)	Curtis A. Taylor
Morristown, NJ	Ray Rogers	Wm. & Martha Griner	WISHFUL THINKING (TB)	Erin & Martha Griner
Region 20				
Colorado Springs, CO	Betty Roberts	Tom Magee	PROUD TRADITION (TB)	Betty Roberts
Denver, CO	Fran Evers	Lowell Baumunk	LEMON UP (BB)	Marty Artzberger
Denver, CO	Orvid & Lois Olson	Lynda Love	LOCAL COLOR (TB)	Orvid & Lois Olson
Rocky Ford, CO	Rose McClain	Karen Tomky	PACIFIC MIST (TB)	Emery Swartzendruber
Region 21				
Brookings, SD	C.T. & Signey Clausen	RaeJean Gee	PISTOL (TB)	C.T. & Signey Clausen
Lincoln, NE	Gary White	Eugene Kalkwarf	POINT MADE (TB)	Linda Rader
Lincoln, NE	Eugene Kalkwarf	Gary White	MYSTERIOUS MONIQUE (ver)	Gary White
Norfolk, NE	Carolyn Lingefelter	Neal Pohlman	CATCH A WAVE (TB)	Carolyn Lingefelter
Omaha, NE	Chris Janke	Robert Vanecek	DUSKY CHALLENGER (TB)	Chris Janke
Scottsbluff, NE	June Hara	Julie Feil	PURE-AS-THE (TB)	Julie Feil
Sioux City, IA	Arnold & Carol Kockcock	Sye & Ruth Roghair	BOYS TOWN (TB)	Sye & Ruth Roghair

Place of Show	Silver Medal	Bronze Medal	Best Specimen	Exhibitor
Region 22				
Apache, OK	Donna & Lacey Hagood	Mary & Jerry Turner	HOST TRAIN (TB)	Donna & Lacey Hagood
Edmond, OK	Bonnie Hadaway	Mary Watson	SULTRY MOOD (TB)	Sharon Eisele
Enid, OK	Annder & Mickey Barrows	Bill Goldsberry	SNOW JOB (TB)	John & Ginny Tripp
Hot Springs, AR	James Bledsoe	Sheila Brown	DUSKY CHALLENGER (TB)	Jim Bledsoe
Lawton, OK	Scottie Finney	The Kowalchyks	OZONE ALERT (TB)	Nancy & Norbett Kowalchyk
Lawton, OK	Marjorie Puckett	Scottie Finney	CINNAMON STICK (SPU)	Marjorie Puckett
Little Rock, AR	Tom Dillard	M. D. Faith	POVERTY POINT (LA)	Tom Dillard
Norman, OK	Louise Carson	Norbert Kowalchyk	OZONE ALERT (TB)	Norbert Kowalchyk
Oklahoma City, OK	Perry Dyer	Loretta Aaron	AZTEC SUN (TB)	Rex Matthews
Oklahoma City, OK	Perry Dyer	Rex Matthews	PERFECT PITCH (TB)	Hugh Stout
Oklahoma City, OK	F. W. McVicker	Louise Carson	DUSKY CHALLENGER (TB)	June Hardy
Oklahoma City, OK	Loretta Aaron	Randy Moore	BOY CRAZY (LA)	Mona French/Greer Holland
Ponca City, OK	Dorothy Dickson	Ann & Mickey Barrows	LAVENDER ICE (TB)	Dorothy Dickson
Searcy, AR	M. D. Faith	Bobby Coker	GERTIE BUTLER (LA)	M. D. Faith
Tulsa, OK	Dean & Georgia Brand	Jo Ann Minter	RIPPLING RIVER (TB)	Dean & Georgia Brand
Tulsa, OK	The Brands	Phil & Charlan Stonecipher	SOFT MOONBEAM (TB)	Dean & Georgia Brand
Region 23				
Albuquerque, NM	Irene Shockey	Cindy Rivera	RED EARTH (AB)	Pete McGrath
Albuquerque, NM	Cindy Rivera	Wela Mae Huffstutler	BLUE LASSIE (SPU)	Reita & Scott Jordan
Roswell, NM	Pegi Naranjo	Gary Biggs	GYPSY ROMANCE (TB)	Gary Biggs
Santa Fe, NM	Tom Tadfor Little	Pat & Bill Frather	I. Sanguinea Kamayama (SIB)	Tom Tadfor Little
Region 24				
Grenada, MS	Walter Moores	Billie Lynn Jones	MARIE DOLORES (LA)	Billie Lynn Jones
Huntsville, AL	Margaret Connally	Betty J. BurchL	ARCENIST (TB)	Margaret Connally

Web Site Hosting Offer

by John Jones, California

Mallorn Computing owned by Christopher Lindsey hosts many garden sites, and is the host for the AIS online checklist site www.irisregister.com. Mallorn has offered a special deal for hosting AIS Regional and Iris club websites.

They offer 50 MB of disk space, domain name server service, email redirection, and FTP access for about \$120/year. It might be a little more—it depends on the number of emails forwards. That price doesn't include the cost of a domain name (like www.AISRegXXirises.org), so it would be \$155/year with Network Solutions fees (\$35/year) added in. This is a very good offer. Of course you can find free ISP service, but then you have to put up with those obnoxious ads and pop up windows.

You can see his main website at: <http://www.hort.net>

If you are interested contact Chris at <lindsey@mallorn.com> and mention the AIS special.

AIS Artistic Shows

Winners of 2000

Place of Show	Best Design	Artistic Sweepstakes	Best Design Youth	Artistic Sweepstakes Youth
Region 1				
Auburn, ME	Peter Young	Nancy McNeil	Kelsey Best	
Auburn, ME	Shanna Desothe	Shanna Desothe	Jolene Best	
Shelburne Falls, MA	Kathay Marble	Kathay Marble		
South Paris, ME	Peter Young	Peter Young	Donna Roberts	
Waltham, MA	Kathay Marble	Kathay Marble		
Region 2				
Buffalo, NY	Audrey Eisenhardt			
Syracuse, NY	Jean Hayes			
Region 3				
Pittsburgh, PA	TIE: Dianne Mrak and Jane Cadman			
Region 4				
Charlotte, NC	Catherine Silverthorne			
Fredericksburg, VA	Dottie Dunivin	Dottie Dunivin		
Region 5				
Gaffney, SC	Elaine Wade	Elaine Wade	Andrew Dickson	Andrew Dickson
Milledgeville, GA	Joe Scott Watson	Earnest Yearwood	Brittany White	
Summerville, SC	Leora Moore	Barbara Mitchem		
Tucker, GA	Janet McGinnis	Andrew Cohilas		
Region 6				
Akron, OH	Joy Fuhrmeyer	Joy Fuhrmeyer		
Akron, OH	Dorothy Willott	Dorothy Willott		
Cleveland, OH	Frances Holecek	Joy Fuhrmeyer		
Columbus, OH	Lila Aldrich	Lila Aldrich		
Fort Wayne, IN	Janice Brown	Janice Brown		
Grand Rapids, MI	Ruth Levanduski	Ruth Levanduski		
Grand Rapids, MI	Ruth Levanduski	Ruth Levanduski		
Indianapolis, IN	Betty Polanka	Betty Polanka		
Lansing, MI	Joan McComb			
Mansfield, OH	Kay Hostetler	Johanna Bodiford		
Mio, MI	Delores Meinzinger	Dolores Meinzinger		
Muncie, IN	Betty Thomas			
Region 7				
Lebanon, TN	Jeraldine Graves	Jeraldine Graves		
Louisville, KY	Paul Owen	Paul Owen		
Memphis, TN	Gini Hill	Gini Hill		
Memphis, TN	Mary Sandvig			
Murfreesboro, TN	Joyce Benedict			
Nashville, TN	Cynda Ferguson			
Region 8				
Blaine, MN	Marsha VandeBrake	Joan Cooper		
Blaine, MN	Inge Hempel	Inge Hempel		
Madison, WI	Lila Erickson	Lila Erickson		
Minneota, MN	Rae Jean Gee		Jenna Hennen	
Region 9				
Glencoe, IL	Bill Hessel	Bill Hessel		
Hinsdale, IL	Lucie Kajiwara	Lucie Kajiwara		
Hinsdale, IL	Betsy Grimm	Betsy Grimm	Heather Hamblin	

<i>Place of Show</i>	<i>Best Design</i>	<i>Artistic Sweepstakes</i>	<i>Best Design Youth</i>	<i>Artistic Sweepstakes Youth</i>
Region 11				
Boise, ID	Louisa Cone	Louisa Cone		
Missoula, MT	RoseMary Baier	James Sadler		
Ontario, OR	Louisa Cone	Louisa Cone		
Region 12				
Logan, UT	Joan McFadden	Charlotte Brennand	Josh Brown	
Salt Lake City, UT	Kathie Kasperek	Kathie Kasperek		
Salt Lake City, UT	Cathy Hagan Reed	Lynn Hess		
Region 13				
Salem, OR	Kath Collier	Laurie Ystad		
Spokane, WA	Norma Lunden	Norma Lunden		
Vancouver, WA	Kath Collier	Kath Collier		
Vancouver, WA	Kath Collier	Kath Collier		
Walla Walla, WA	Jean Dietrich	Jean Dietrich		
Yakima, WA	Judy Boekholder	Dorothy S. Munroe		
Region 14				
Auburn, CA	Roberta Whisler	Cloudia Owen		
Chico, CA	Cloudia Owen	Eulalie Godfrey	J.T. Moreno	
Fresno, CA	Eulalie Godfrey	Evelyn Condo		
Las Vegas, NV	Evelyn Condo	Millie Zink		
Redding, CA	Millie Zink	Millie Zink	Heather Brinkman	
Region 15				
Arcadia, CA	Elaine Monninger	Elaine Monninger	Vicky Cheney	Emily Bys
Northridge, CA	Penny Iriye	Debbie Babuscio		
Phoenix, AZ	Marge Larsen			
Riverside, CA	Elaine Monninger	Elaine Monninger	Derean Womack	
San Diego, CA	Pat Brendel	Elba Costello		
Tucson, AZ	Sumi Pugh	Sumi Pugh		
Region 17				
Amarillo, TX	Kathy Palmer			
Austin, TX	Pat Freeman			
Cleburne, TX	Bob Alexander	Bob Alexander		
Denison, TX	Gordon D. Green	Jan Montgomery		
Iowa Park, TX	Annetta Reusch	Annetta Reusch	Chentel Burk	Chentel Burk
Lubbock, TX	Eupha Skillman	Rosemary English		
Midland, TX	Lonie Mitchell	Lonie Mitchell	Caitlin Porter	Caitlin Porter
Sherman, TX	Charlene Owens	Charlene Owens		
Waco, TX	Hazel Haik	Hazel Haik		
Region 18				
Dodge City, KS	Marti Woods	Marti Woods		
Garden City, KS	Nancy Price	Nancy Price		
Garden City, KS	Nancy Price	Nancy Price		
Hutchinson, KS	Pat Bass	Saundra Grimm	Rachel Hindle	
Parsons, KS	Lucy Pearce	Lucy Pearce		
Springfield, MO	Gladys Jones	Gladys Jones		
St. Joseph, MO	Lucille Boswell	Lucille Boswell		
St. Louis, MO	Jean Morris	Vince Italian	Brenda Culbertson	
Washington, MO	Barb Fouts	Barb Fouts	Nicole Grzeskowiak	Nicole Grzeskowiak
Wichita, KS	Grace Christenson	Joyce Kirk	Grace Christenson	
Wichita, KS	Jay Westervelt	Jay Westervelt	Jennifer Schmidt	
Region 20				
Colorado Springs, CO	Betty Roberts	Betty Roberts		
Denver, CO	Joan James	Joan James		
Rocky Ford, CO	Rose McClain	Rose McClain		

<i>Place of Show</i>	<i>Best Design</i>	<i>Artistic Sweepstakes</i>	<i>Best Design Youth</i>	<i>Artistic Sweepstakes Youth</i>
Region 21				
Brookings, SD	Rae Jean Gee	Rae Jean Gee		
Lincoln, NE	Kym Hodge			
Lincoln, NE	Gary White			
Norfolk, NE	Marian Burleigh	Marjorie Jansen		
Omaha, NE	Linda Wilkie	Linda Wilkie		
Scottsbluff, NE	June Hara	Viola Schreiner		
Sioux City, IA	Dennis Wolf	TIE Dennis Wolf, Ruth Roghair, Carol Koekkoer		
Region 22				
Edmond, OK	Sadie Hild	Sadie Hild	Rebecca Harper	Rebecca Harper
Enid, OK	Marjorie Andrews	Elaine Lee	Monica Combrink	
Hot Springs, AR	Rosalyn Halbert	Rosalyn Halbert		
Lawton, OK	Judy Kirby	Brenda Nease & Judy Kirby	Jessica Miller	Jessica Miller
Lawton, OK	Brenda Mease	Brenda Nease	Whitney James	Jessica Miller
Little Rock, AR	Betty Henderson	Betty Henderson		
Norman, OK	Nancy Kowalchyk	Nancy Kowalchyk		
Oklahoma City, OK	Christal Sapp	Christal Sapp	Renea Medrano	
Oklahoma City, OK	Virginia Gregory	Nathan McKenzie		
Region 23				
Albuquerque, NM	Patricia Randall	June Ballog		
Roswell, NM	Pegi Naranjo	Pegi Naranjo		
Santa Fe, NM	Barbara Marco	Maggie Rubino		
Region 24				
Blountsville, AL	Delois Dunn	Dorothy Holmes		

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AIS Shows

Youth Winners of 2000

Place of Show	Silver Medal	Bronze Medal	Best Specimen-Youth	Exhibitor-Youth
Region 3				
Pittsburgh, PA			CAESAR'S BROTHER (SIB)	Erin Ritenour
Smryna, DE	Clair Jewell	Briana Hargett	BUMBLEBEE DEELITE (MTB)	Gracie Leathrum
York, PA	Ashley Ocambs	Stephen Baldwin	CONJURATION (TB)	Ashley Ocambs
Region 4				
Beltsville, MD			AZ AP (IB)	Brittany Stoll
Region 5				
Milledgeville, GA	Kristen Geeter	Kay Weathers	HONEYMOOD SUITE (TB)	Kristen Geeter
Tucker, GA			EGYPTIAN (TB)	Andrew Cohilas
Region 7				
Dresden, TN	Stuart Reynolds	Crockett Goode	OMINOUS STRANGER (TB)	Stuart Reynolds
Lexington, KY			CORAL CHARMER (TB)	Vicky Adkins
Memphis, TN			HELLO DARKNESS (TB)	Shana Cowell
Murfreesboro, TN	Craig Watson	Robert McKee	SONG OF NORWAY (TB)	Craig Watson
Nashville, TN			GLACIER KISS (TB)	Craig Watson
Region 11				
Boise, ID			VISUAL ARTS (TB)	Jessica McGrew
Missoula, MT			BISHOP'S CLOAK (TB)	Jonathon Stratton
Ontario, OR			JESTER (TB)	Brian Touchstone
Region 13				
Vancouver, WA			DANCE BALLERINA DANCE (SIB)	Karyn Gibson
Region 14				
Sacramento, CA			STREET WALKER (TB)	Iris Lehman
Region 15				
San Diego, CA			BELLA VEE (IB)	Beth Rocha
Region 17				
Iowa Park, TX			AZTEC AFFLUENCE (TB)	Audra Koetter
Midland, TX	Bethany Davilla	Stephanie Strauss	TARLETON (TB)	Stephanie Strauss
Odessa, TX	Bethany Davilla	Ryan Carnes	HANDS UP (TB)	Ryan Carnes
Region 18				
Cape Girardeau, MO			PARADISE (TB)	Gabriel Lockhart
Hutchinson, KS	Rachel Hindle	Bethany Masterson & Isaac Hindle TIE	ROSETTE WINE (TB)	Bethany Masterson
St. Louis, MO			AGRIPPINNE (JI)	Stephanie Rust
Washington, MO	Christopher Rust	Stephanie Rust	VITAFIRE (TB)	Christopher Rust
Washington, MO	Christopher Rust	Stephanie Rust	BROTHER CARL (TB)	Stephanie Rust
Region 19				
Morristown, NY			LADY FRIEND (TB)	Sue Marchetti
Region 22				
Lawton, OK	Whitney James	Jessica Miller	ISLAND SUNSET (TB)	Whitney James
Lawton, OK	Whitney James	Dylan Friesner	EDITH WOLFORD (TB)	Whitney James
Norman, OK			COLORTART (TB)	C. J. Wilcox
Oklahoma City, OK			HONKY TONK BLUES (TB)	Shelby James
Ponca City, OK	Eric Whitebay	Kelsey Whitebay	EVERYTHING PLUS (TB)	Eric Whitebay
Region 23				
Roswell, NM			NIGHT RULER (TB)	Jennifer Moran

Displays

Educational & Commercial

<i>Place of Show</i>	<i>Educational</i>	<i>Commercial</i>
Region 2 Albany, NY Poughkeepsie, NY Syracuse, NY	Robert Keup Robert Keup Maria Gerbacht	
Region 4 Hendersonville, NC	Flossie Nelson	Steve Smart
Region 5 Gaffney, SC Milledgeville, GA Summerville, SC	Cindy White Sandy Stafford	Steve Smart Sandy Stafford
Region 7 Louisville, KY	Lula Reynolds	
Region 8 Blaine, MN Blaine, MN	William Dougherty William Dougherty	Rice Creek Gardens
Region 11 Boise, ID Missoula, MT Ontario, OR	Brian Touchstone Ken Baier Brian Touchstone	
Region 13 Lake Forest Park, WA	George & Carla Lankow	
Region 14 Auburn, CA Chico, CA Las Vegas, NV	Art Bern Andrew Acosta Dean Lamar Allen Grade School (Grade 3)	
Region 15 Phoenix, AZ Riverside, CA San Diego, CA	Grace Martin Kate Rocha Ohara School of Ikebana	Kary Iris Garden
Region 17 Amarillo, TX Austin, TX Cleburne, TX	Billie Corbell Pat Freeman Bob Alexander	
Region 18 St. Louis, MO Wichita, KS	Stephanie Rust Sheila Baier	
Region 22 Enid, OK Lawton, OK Lawton, OK	Monica Combrink M/M Howard Edwards M/M Howard Edwards	

Exhibition Certificates

for 2000

Tall Bearded

Aitken, Terry	89M34	Suchy, Len	95-15
Baumunk, Lowell	94RUHK-4	Sutton, George	J-31A
Bevel, Tom	95-49	Sutton, George	J-119-I
Brown, Opal	93-5-A6	Tasco, Rick	92-32
Browne, Ted	91-14 ARF	Theissen, Mike	93-1
Chapman, Bill	E-6-94-SW	Tripp, John	96J3-1
Chadwick, Keith	OASIS PATCHES	Vizvarie, Chris	20-91A-CRV
Davis, Marvin C.	N2-A25-H	Walters, Jeffrey L.	97-GT-23
Ghio, Joe	DOUBLE CLICK	White, Ted	84-R-8
Ghio, Joe	94-102-R	Wilkerson, Betty	9514-1
Ghio, Joe	U97-10A	Wolford, Harry	ADA MARIE
Griner, Erin	E95-01B	Worel, Jack	TTY-M
Grise, William	P.306		
Grumbine, Mark	96-18		
Grundler, Larry	98-4-3		
Hadaway, Bonnie	97-B1		
Harrington, Mary	SM 2000		
Innerst, Sterling	4571-4		
James, Wilford (Mike)	MJ-00-10		
James, Wilford (Mike)	MJ 99-8		
Jameson, Mitch	1-94		
Johnson, Aaron	2000-25		
Kalkwarf, Eugene	97-23		
Keppel, Keith	93-113B		
Keppel, Keith	95-69B		
Kessler, Ouin	LEMON SUGAR		
Kutz, Melania	X-Bloom		
Laborde, Elena	99SOXM1		
Magee, Tom	9014A		
Magee, Tom	9210		
Magee, Tom	9225		
Magee, Tom	9719 B		
Mansfield, Ted/McRae, James	93-01		
Meininger, LeRoy	Edith Wolford-E cross		
Miller's Manor Garden	80997		
Mueller, Adam	92-36A		
Nearpass, D. C. (deceased)	91-115E		
Nebeker, Don	957 A		
Nebeker, Don	N 1235		
Nebeker, Don1	220-3		
Nebeker, Don1	381-2		
Nebeker, Don1	381-13		
Nichols, Bonnie	97-500		
Nichols, Bonnie	97-501		
Niswonger, O.D.	79-97		
Parkhill, Tom	97-301		
Ragle, Joyce	92-24-CMG-2		
Reusch, Annetta	NETTA		
Richlie, Wayne	R-31		
Robarts, Evelyn G.	6 A5-2		
Rogers, Francis	C-308-R		
Rogers, Francis	C-711-A		
Schreiner's	EE-303-A		
Schreiner's	EE-603-A		
Sorenson, Donald	S91-35-3		
Spoon, Don	98-324A		
Spoon, Don	989-165B		
Squires, Randy	97-28-1		
Stanek, Tim	95-3G		
Stevens, Steve	90-22-B		

Standard Dwarf Bearded

Baumunk, Lowell	731 C
Black, Paul	B279AA
Hadaway, Bonnie	SP X PP1
Loveland, Jim	00-15
Schmieder, David	97-RA-4
Spoon, Don	97-619A
Spoon, Don	97-619B
Spoon, Don	97-653A
Spoon, Don	97-688T
Spoon, Don	98-4-B
Spoon, Don	98-17TU
Willott, Anthony & Dorothy	Prince of Thieves
Willott, Anthony & Dorothy	W2K-112
Willott, Anthony & Dorothy	W99-17
Willott, Anthony & Dorothy	W99-35
Willott, Anthony & Dorothy	W99-42

Intermediate Bearded

Craig, Vicki	60-D-11
Hahn, Clyde	94-13-C
Hutcheson, Martha	96-33BDT-4
Perry, Dell	94IB
Smith, Marky	DELIRIUM

Minature Dwarf Bearded

Hazelton, Warren	97-B-3
Hazelton, Warren	98-A-13
Keppel, Keith	92-4B
Keppel, Keith	97-31A

Border Bearded

Baumunk, Lowell	9210B
Cadd, Anna and David	48-93-3
Crump, Griffin	95P1
Markham, Lynn	96-883
Rogers, Francis	C-701-A
Varner, Terry	94-23B1
Wulf, Opal	38-92-1

Minature Tall Bearded

Bunnell, Charles	F8-4A
Craig, Jin and Vicki	7038
Markham, Stephanie A.	97-2A
Markham, Stephanie A.	97-9B
Sorensen, Don	5-91-36-9
Sutton, George	L-1-MTB-RE
Thurman, Hugh	9218-1

Aril & Arilbred

Annand, Bob
 Baumunk, Lowell
 Chacon, Tony and Caroline
 McGrath, Peter

91-99B
 OL 4
 FIPN(OL(PNS)
 McA96-9DS

Siberian

Adkins, Rita
 Bauer, Bob & Coble, John
 Berling, Richard
 Fulton, Chandler
 Griner, Joseph John & Margaret
 Helsley, Calvin
 Hollingworth, Bob
 Kermode, Cynthia
 Morley, Kevin
 Pohlman, Neal
 Pohlman, Neal
 Shimizu, Hiroshi
 Steele, Katharine
 Wheeler, Andrew
 Wheeler, Andrew
 White, John
 Willott, Anthony & Dorothy
 Willott, Anthony & Dorothy
 Willott, Anthony & Dorothy

E-DBD-A

S93GC-1

97-15-D

F8A11

94J044

0003

97D5A7

NNSI-0100

M/93X2

YADO NO SAKURA

S 5600-01

36A-R1-1

HC-R2-1

96SA-MW5-29

W2K-229

W2K-230

W97-12

Californicae

Belardi, Lois
 Cole, Debby
 Eigenman, Diane & Darrell
 Lawyer, Lewis and Adele
 Lawyer, Lewis and Adele
 Lawyer, Lewis and Adele
 Lawyer, Lewis and Adele
 Posten, Phillip
 Stremel, Jean
 Wood, Vernon
 Wood, Vernon
 Wood, Vernon
 Wood, Vernon

20-1
 DRACULARITY
 9807-A
 XP 224D
 XP 317A
 XP 378A
 XP 378B
 P-1015
 P 98006
 20-31A
 96-55
 98-46
 98-79

Louisiana

Faith, M.D.
 Haymon, Dorman
 Haymon, Dorman
 Matheny, Ed III
 Morgan, Richard
 Paquet, Shirley
 Paquet, Shirley

57A-Henry Rowlan
 29-94-1
 186-92-1
 L:03-01-97
 Lu-8
 LP-1
 LP-3

Spuria

Benson, Barbara

69-2

Species

Aitken, Terry
 Wheeler, Andrew
 Wheeler, Andrew

98-SPEC-1

BIS-LAEV-1

Dark-2

Species-X

Schmieder, David
 Wheeler, Andrew

96K-125-1

RD-R5-1-98

Sino-Siberian

Lankow, Carla & George
 Reid, Lorena
 Reid, Lorena

9540-024-F

95-S78-3E

95-S114EE

Versicolor

Schick, Oscar

93-21 HOI

Japanese

Delmez, Don
 Delmez, Don
 Delmez, Don
 Delmez, Don
 Delmez, Don
 Harris, Chad
 Innerst, Sterling
 Murphy, Norma
 Reid, Lorena
 Walker, Lee
 Wheeler, Andrew
 White, John
 White, John
 Whitney, Sharon

5BOST
 DMVVST
 DWBE
 SBWL
 SP-10
 94JA7
 5220-24
 NM 2
 90J44-2F
 94-94-52
 MJTR73
 93JN-B8-9
 95JI-W17-7
 J 91/88-2

Design Corner

Judging Flower Designs

by Carolyn Hawkins

MANY TIMES PEOPLE WONDER JUST HOW JUDGES ARE able to decide which design wins over another one. Sometimes, to justify why a winner is chosen, is one of complete mystery and difficult to defend. The best way to answer the question is to tell how they *should* be judged and hope that will be the process that is used. Not all judging techniques are the same and not all organizations do it the same way. After working with several plant societies and another garden club group, it is easy to say that there is no set rule, but the following guidelines are tried and true. This information is based on the *Handbook for Flower Shows*, 1997 Edition published by The National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc.

Designs are usually judged from at least three feet away. This gives a complete picture, although close examination to check the condition of the plant material is always done. There is a scale of points as follows:

Conformance to the schedule requirements. There will be a class description that spells out the requirements that must be met to be awarded the full 20 points. A class may specify a line design using fall flowers. A line design has a dominant linear pattern, and shows much restraint which does not use many plant materials. Of course fall flowers should be used. Once these requirements are met you can move on. If a requirement is not met a percentage of the 20 points is deducted relative to the class description. The best class descriptions are those that give as much freedom as possible to the designer for the space allowed.

The most important category on the point scale is Design. There are 42 points in this category and determines how well the elements of light, line, form, space, pattern, color, size and texture have been organized according to the principles of design. The principles are as follows:

1. Balance – visual stability
2. Dominance – greater force of one element than another
3. Contrast – to place emphasis on differences
4. Rhythm – the visual path flowing through a design
5. Proportion – relationship of areas and amounts to the whole, including space allotted.

6. Scale – size relationship of the individual components, blooms, leaves, etc. (i.e. A large lily with small Baby's Breath is out of scale.)

Artistic Concept is worth 12 points and is the result of the designer's imaginative skill and choice of design components (plant materials, container, mechanics, etc.) and how they are organized. This allows and encourages originality and creative ideas to be displayed.

Expression determines how well the exhibitor has interpreted the class title or communicated to viewer an imaginative thought. This is worth 10 points.

Distinction is defined as marked superiority in every respect: conformance, design, condition of plant materials and all other components, workmanship and mechanics. It should be an outstanding design that holds the attention of the viewer. If there are any points deducted in any of the other categories there will be a small amount of points deducted here. 16 points are allowed in this category.

Using these tools and the training gained from attending symposiums and flower show schools, a NCSGC judge can reasonably evaluate a design. Also "practice makes perfect" is a phrase that applies whether you are competing, or judging in design, or in horticulture. Judges are encouraged and required to enter and judge in both areas, to study, and to maintain a degree of expertise as rules change. Of course, ethics enters in also, and there is a complete set of rules to follow to maintain strict standards and credibility. For the AIS judge who might have to judge in an Iris Show or fill an absentee judge's position, it is hoped that the above information will help.

The following four designs were all done by NCSGC judges and were not in competition in a flower show, but using the above guidelines can you pick the blue ribbon winner?

The class description, which spells out the requirements for these four designs could have read as follows: "Four designs using iris and other all fresh plant materials. Backgrounds and/or foregrounds are to be supplied by the exhibitor. Accessories are permitted. Eligible for a Tricolor Award."

Photo 1 (see inside back cover) was done by Jackie Payne, Designers Study Club, Alpharetta, GA. The Iris 'Tufted Cloud' has been inserted in a needlepoint holder inside a black contemporary container. Azalea foliage has been added and now the entire design gives one the feeling of an Oriental garden with the delicate branches, and the very restrained use of plant materials. The design fulfills the requirements of the class description with the use of all fresh plant materials—and a background/

foreground is all one color, which adds to the distinction of this creation. Is this a traditional or creative design? (Answer: Traditional)

Kathie Kasperek of Elwood, Utah designed Photo 2. The Iris 'Tiger Honey' is the only plant material used in this design. The use of accessories further illustrates her chosen theme of a celebration for New Year's Eve. The upright iris are in a wine bottle and the iris in the foreground has been inserted into a water tube (which is not visible). As one can see, just the use of the iris can create a very exciting and dramatic design. Is this a traditional design or a creative design? (Answer: Traditional) Have all of the rules of the class description been fulfilled? (Answer: Yes—all fresh plant material has been used)

Photo 3 was done by Rosemary McCormick, Designers Study Club, Atlanta, GA. Hosta leaves are inserted into the container with the iris being the dominant plant material in this design. The open container has a needlepoint in the bottom and top, which holds water. The iris stalks were then placed in these holders. Note the container is turned slightly to show the open areas, and it is placed on a base. Again, a solid background/foreground has been used in this very harmonious design. Is this a traditional or creative design? (Answer: Traditional) Does it meet the requirements of the class? (Answer: Yes, as it has all fresh plant material.)

In Photo 4 the author chose to use in her design all white Louisiana Iris and hosta foliage with white edging. The staging of the design is on a plastic stand, with needlepoints in cups of water placed below and on top of the stand to hold the design units. Is this a traditional or creative design? (Answer: Traditional with creative placement of the design units) Are the rules of the class description followed? (Answer: Yes, all fresh plant material has been used.)

After considering all of the four designs, which one would you pick for the blue ribbon winner? All four conform to the schedule requirements. Consider the balance, and all have dominance (of iris). Do you see contrast in color, or textures, and do you experience rhythm in the designs? Proportion is the relationship of the areas and amounts to the whole, and then you consider scale as it is the size relationship between the components. Now after you have looked at all of the design principle, the artistic concept, expression and distinction will be considered. Based on the descriptions of these categories above, now which one would you pick as the blue ribbon winner?

If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact: Carolyn Hawkins, AIS Judge and National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc. Plant Society Liaison, 7329 Kendel Court, Jonesboro, GA 30236 or at crh9999@aol.com. 

100 Favorite Iris

2001 Tall Bearded Symposium

Below are the results of the Tall Bearded Iris Symposium ballot, which was included in the July 2000 AIS Bulletin. Shown is the ranking for 2000 and 2001. All AIS members were eligible to vote, not just judges.

2000	2001	Votes	Cultivar	Hybridizer	Year	Season	Height	Color
1	1	578	DUSKY CHALLENGER	Schreiner's	'86	M-L	39"	dark purple
2	2	507	SILVERADO	Schreiner's	'87	M	38"	lt. silver blue
4	3	443	JESSE'S SONG	B. Williamson	'83	M	36"	wht. & vio. plicata
3	4	404	BEVERLY SILLS	B. Hager	'79	M	36"	pink
8	5	372	CONJURATION	M. Byers	'89	M-L	36"	wht. & vio. wht. horns
10	6	348	THORNBIRD	M. Byers	'89	M	35"	ecru tan vio. horns
6	7	345	TITAN'S GLORY	Schreiner's	'81	E-M	37"	dark violet
9	8	343	EDITH WOLFORD	B. Hager	'86	M	40"	yell. S.;blue-vio. F.
5	9	334	HONKY TONK BLUES	Schreiner's	'88	M	37"	hyacinth blue
11	10	313	STEPPING OUT	Schreiner's	'64	M-L	38"	wht. & vio. plicata
14	11	306	LADY FRIEND	J. Ghio	'81	VE-E	38"	garnet red
7	12	303	VANITY	B. Hager	'75	E-L	36"	pink
12	13	298	HELLO DARKNESS	Schreiner's	'93	E-M	37"	purple black
13	14	293	BEFORE THE STORM	S. Innerst	'89	M	36"	near black
25	15	283	STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN	L. Lauer	'93	E-M	40"	off wht. S./med. bl.F
20	16	278	YAQUINA BLUE	Schreiner's	'92	M	37"	medium blue
16	17	254	VICTORIA FALLS	Schreiner's	'77	E-L	40"	blue; wht. spot on F.
28	18	240	SKATING PARTY	L. Gaulter	'83	M-L	40"	white
15	19	239	LACED COTTON	Schreiner's	'80	M-L	34"	white
19	20	232	SUPREME SULTAN	Schreiner's	'88	M-L	40"	yell. S; crimson F.
17	21	230	MARY FRANCES	L. Gaulter	'72	M	38"	blue-orchid
18	22	223	IMMORTALITY	L. Zurbrog	'84	M&Re	30"	white
30	22	223	MESMERIZER	M. Byers	'91	M	36"	white/whiteflounces
23	24	220	SUPERSTITION	Schreiner's	'77	M	36"	maroon black
24	25	219	BOOGIE WOOGIE	H. Nichols	'93	M-L	36"	wht. S./F. cldy. vio.
26	26	205	GOING MY WAY	J. Gibson	'72	M	37"	wht. & vio. plicata
26	27	204	JOYCE TERRY	T. Muhlestein	'74	M-L	38"	yell.& wht.yell.edge
22	28	203	SONG OF NORWAY	W. Luihn	'79	M-L	38"	powder blue
28	29	199	BREAKERS	Schreiner's	'86	M	36"	medium blue
36	30	195	RUSTLER	K. Keppel	'88	M	37"	gold-brown
33	31	193	ACOMA	T. Magee	'90	E	30"	pale bl./iv. vio. plc
21	32	191	CHAMPAGNE ELEGANCE	D. Niswonger	'87	M	33"	pink & apricot
52	33	188	CELEBRATION SONG	Schreiner's	'93	E-M-L	37"	apricot-pink S. blue-lavender falls
34	34	170	MYSTIQUE	J. Ghio	'75	E-L	36"	lt. blue S; dk.blue F
30	35	162	SKY HOOKS	M. Osborne	'80	M	36"	soft yell.; vio. horn
32	36	161	DAZZLING GOLD	D.C. Anderson	'81	M	29"	yell.veined brown
41	37	158	RARE TREAT	Schreiner's	'87	E-M	34"	blue & white plicata
51	38	153	GAY PARASOL	Schreiner's	'74	M	35"	lav. wht./rose violet
57	39	149	CITY LIGHTS	M. Dunn	'91	M	37"	blue/white spot on F.

2000	2001	Votes	Cultivar	Hybridizer	Year	Season	Height	Color
40	39	149	AFTERNOON DELIGHT	R. Ernst	'85	M	40"	tan-gold/ maroon
37	41	147	TIGER HONEY	B. Kasperek	'94	EM	38"	butterscotch-caramel w/ wht. & yel. streaks
35	42	146	BRIDE'S HALO	H. Mohr	'73	E-L	36"	white edged yellow
39	43	145	EVERYTHING PLUS	D. Niswonger	'84	M	34"	blue-wht. & vio. plic
54	44	133	CAMELOT ROSE	C. Tompkins	'65	M-L	30"	lilac/burgundy
58	44	133	FANCY WOMAN	K. Keppel	'95	VE-EM	38"	lilac purple luminata
48	44	133	QUEEN IN CALICO	J. Gibson	'80	M	34"	apricot/red vio. plic
48	47	131	BEWILDERBEAST	B. Kasperek	'95	M	30"	mauve streaked silver
41	48	130	ANNA BELLE BABSON	B. Hager	'85	M	36"	bright pink
54	49	128	PERSIAN BERRY	L. Gaulter	'77	M	35"	mulberry-lavender
38	50	127	CLARENCE	L. Zurbrigg	'91	M&Re	35"	white S; lt. blue
53	51	126	RINGO	G. Shoop	'79	M	38"	white/grape edge
59	51	126	POND LILY	Ev. Jones	'95	M	38"	violet blended pink
59	53	125	SWEET MUSSETTE	Schreiner's	'86	M-L	37"	flamingo/rose
46	54	124	FRINGE BENEFITS	B. Hager	'88	M	30"	orange
44	54	124	MULLED WINE	K. Keppel	'82	L	36"	raspberry-burgundy
45	54	124	RHONDA FLEMING	R. Mullin	'93	M-L	35"	white banded lilac
61	57	123	OKTOBERFEST	W. Maryott	'87	M	37"	red-orange
85	58	122	JURASSIC PARK	L. Lauer	'95	EM	36"	yellow S. purple F.
	58	122	OWYHEE DESERT	L. Pinkston	'97	ML	36"	white S; rusty F w/ white rays, rim
50	60	121	EAGLE'S FLIGHT	Schreiner's	'86	E-M	35"	blue & white plicat
71	61	119	GYPSY ROMANCE	Schreiner's	'94	M-L	37"	violet raspberry
65	62	115	BABBLING BROOK	K. Keppel	'66	M	38"	light blue
41	62	115	CODICIL	S. Innerst	'85	M-L	32"	lt. blue black beard
54	62	115	COPPER CLASSIC	E. Roderick	'75	L	30"	burnt orange
47	65	114	CHERRY SMOKE	D. Meek	'78	M-L	34"	red black
	65	114	ROMANTIC EVENING	J. Ghio	'96	EL	36"	lilac S, dk red-purple F
93	67	111	STUDY IN BLACK	G. Plough	'68	E-M	36"	red-black
76	68	108	BLACK TIE AFFAIR	Schreiner's	'93	M	36"	inky black
	68	108	DIABOLIQUE	Schreiner's	'97	ML	38"	garnet purple
	68	108	SWINGTOWN	Schreiner's	'96	L	36"	mulberry-claret
68	71	105	BAYBERRY CANDLE	C. DeForest	'69	M	36"	chart.,gold & olive
79	72	104	LORILEE	Schreiner's	'81	M-L	37"	rose-orchid
72	73	103	LEMON MIST	N. Rudolph	'72	E	32"	lemon yellow
	73	103	LOCAL COLOR	K. Keppel	'96	M	40"	dk. violet S, darker F
77	75	102	GYPSY WOMAN	Schreiner's	'85	E-M	35"	yell.S; cream F.
62	75	102	KILT LILT	J. Gibson	'70	E-M	40"	tan-gold/maroon plic.
77	77	101	ULLABY OF SPRING	Schreiner's	'87	E-M	38"	mimosa yell./mauve
69	78	100	SWEETER THAN WINE	Schreiner's	'88	E-M	35"	wht. S./royal pur. F.
	79	98	EPICENTER	J. Ghio	'94	EM	42"	black cherry S, salmon F. edged black cherry
99	79	98	THRILLER	Schreiner's	'88	M-L	36"	cerise/claret
90	81	97	NIGHT RULER	Schreiner's	'90	M	39"	dark purple
86	82	95	PROUD TRADITION	Schreiner's	'90	E-M	36"	S.lt.blue F. m. bl.
67	82	95	ROSETTE WINE	Schreiner's	'89	E-L	36"	petunia pur./wht.spot
74	84	94	BLENNHEIM ROYAL	Schreiner's	'90	M	38"	medium blue
99	84	94	HOLY NIGHT	K. Mohr	'83	E	35"	deep violet purple
	86	93	CROWNED HEADS	K. Keppel	'97	M	38"	wistaria S, lt. blue F.

2000	2001	Votes	Cultivar	Hybridizer	Year	Season	Height	Color
74	86	93	ALTRUIST	Schreiner's	'87	E-M	37"	pale blue
	88	91	SPIRIT WORLD	K. Keppel	'94	EM	36"	orchid S; purple F; buff edges
62	88	91	CLASSIC LOOK	Schreiner's	'92	E-M	36"	white w/blue marks
90	88	91	OLYMPIAD	J. Ghio	'84	E-L	38"	pale blue
86	91	90	DOVER BEACH	D.C. Nearpass	'72	E-L	42"	white S. lt. blue F.
83	91	90	ORANGE SLICES	D. Niswonger	'87	M	33"	light orange
82	93	88	SPICED TIGER	B. Kasperek	'96	EM	31"	tan S; mahog F. wh. Strks
93	94	87	DESIGNER GOWN	J. Ghio	'85	EM	34"	pink
66	94	87	EASTERTIME	Schreiner's	'80	M-L	38"	cream/gold edges
	96	86	ARCTIC EXPRESS	J. Gatty	'96	EM	38"	pure white
99	97	85	BUBBLING OVER	J. Ghio	'82	E-L	36"	blue/lilac
93	97	85	ZANDRIA	D. Nebeker	'96	M	38"	pink S, purple/pink F
72	99	84	RUFFLED BALLET	E. Roderick	'75	M-L	30"	blue wht. S.; blue F.
69	99	84	BEST BET	Schreiner's	'88	E	36"	lt. blue S./dp. bl. F

Runners-up: Nigerian Raspberry (83), Tennison Ridge (83), Vibrations (80), Debby Raardon (79), Grand Waltz (79), Aura Light (78)

New to the list: Owyhee Desert, Romantic Evening, Diabolique, Swingtown, Local Color, Epicenter, Crowned Heads, Arctic Express

Returning to the list: Spirit World

Dropped from the list: Christmas Time, Debby Raardon, Gnu, Grand Waltz, Latin Lover, Leda's Lover, Nigerian Raspberry, Raspberry Fudge, Tanzanian Tangerine, Tennison Ridge

Top regions by voting percentage: R12 - 52%, R11 - 30%, R23 - 26%, R9 - 25%, R8 - 25%, R13 - 22%

Top regions by ballots cast: R14 - 140, R13 - 107, R18 - 90, R15 - 82, R22 - 79, R17 - 78, R7 - 71



SILVERADO Second Place



JESSE'S SONG Third Place

Median Favorites

2000

The results of the Symposium Popularity Poll for the Medians are in. Following are the top ten winners for each of the Median categories for 2000.

No. of Votes	Rank 2000	Rank 1999	Variety Name	Hybridizer/Year
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Standard Dwarf Bearded

38	1	6	VAVOOM	Ensminger '94
34	2	1	CHUBBY CHEEKS	Black '85
32	3	12	ICE & INDIGO	Willott '91
31	4	2	CHANTED	B.Blyth '90
28	5	8	DARK VADER	L. Miller '87
25	6	4	PELE	Aitken '93
24	7	18	GEMSTAR	M. Smith '94
23	8	9	SERENITY PRAYER	Dyer '89
22	9	19	JEWELER'S ART	Lankow '93
22	9	15	TWEETY BIRD	Black '92

Intermediate Bearded

44	1	1	RARE EDITION	Gatty '80
41	2	8	PROTOCOL	Keppel '96
37	3	3	LEMON POP	Lauer '90
35	4	1	MAUI MOONLIGHT	Aitken '87
31	5	15	PRINCE OF BURGUNDY	Niswonger '93
28	6	6	BLUE EYED BLOND	Ensminger '89
26	7	5	CEE JAY	Lankow '92
25	8	7	AZ AP	Ensminger '80
23	9	15	HONEY GLAZED	Niswonger '83
22	10	17	AURORA'S BLUSH	Willott '93
22	10	14	DARK WATERS	Aitken '92
22	10	17	RED ZINGER	Black '85

No. of Votes	Rank 2000	Rank 1999	Variety Name	Hybridizer/Year
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Border Bearded

49	1	8	CRANAPPLE	Aitken '95
37	2	1	BATIK	Ensminger '86
36	3	4	SONJA'S SELAH	Ensminger '89
33	4	6	BROWN LASSO	Buckles/Niswonger '75
31	5	12	APRICOT FROSTY	Niswonger '92
31	5	8	PINK BUBBLES	Hager '80
25	7	2	LENORA PEARL	H.Nichols '90
20	8	11	BABOON BOTTOM	Kasperek '94
20	8	13	RED ROOSTER	Durrance '90
20	8	7	ZINC PINK	Ensminger '87

Miniature Tall Bearded

63	1	1	BUMBLEBEE DEELITE	Norrick '86
55	2	3	FROSTED VELVET	Fisher '89
48	3	2	BANGLES	L.Miller '95
37	4	4	ROSEMARY'S DREAM	Dunderman '82
35	5	11	CHICKEE	Dunderman '80
33	6	8	CRYSTAL RUFFLES	Dunderman '86
33	6	8	PRETTY QUIRKY	A. Probst '92
33	6	5	REMINISCENCE	Mahan '94
32	9	12	APRICOT DROPS	Aitken '95
32	9	19	PARDNER	Fisher '93

Aril Median

26	1	1	LOUDMOUTH	L. Rich '70
19	2	3	BOZRAH	Gadd '90
18	3	8	OMAR'S GOLD	Boswell '96
17	4	2	JEWEL OF OMAR	Boswell '86
17	4	23	PATRIOT'S GEM	Gadd '93
12	6	9	ANACRUSIS	Mathes '92
11	7	6	SIZZLE	Gadd '78
11	7	11	SOLOMON'S GLORY	H. Nichols '87
10	9	6	PRAIRIE THUNDER	Black '90
10	9	10	SMOKE WITH WINE	Boswell '81

The American Iris Society
Consolidated Financial Statement

Fiscal Year Ending 9-30-00

Income:

Restricted Fund Donations	\$4,505
Unrestricted Donations	1,104
Silent Auction	7,111
Earned Interest	15,879
Section Dues	485
Membership Dues	90,180
Bulletin	11,762
Committees	13,197
Other Income	1,111
Registrations	4,742
Storefront Sales	37,031
Total Income	\$187,105

Expense:

Web Site	390
Professional Fees	306
Misc. Bank Fees	103
990T Tax	157
Restricted Funds/Scholarships	8,994
Advertising	55
Bank Service Charges	32
Bulletin Expense	83,070
Committee Expense	12,012
Insurance	4,432
Membership Secretary	6,717
Miscellaneous	2,086
Recording Secretary	68
Registrar	460
Returned Checks	43
Storefront	30,871
Secretary	1,288
Total Expense	\$151,084
 Net Income	 \$36,021

Balance Sheet

Current Assets:

Checking/Money Market	89,424
General Fund CD Account	51,170
Life Membership CD Acct.	112,842
Total Checking/Savings	253,430
Total Current Assets	\$253,430

Editor - Storefront inventory approximately \$200,000



Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation

(Required by 39 USC 3685)

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Bulletin of the American Iris Society	0 7 4 7 - 4 1 7 2	1 October 2000
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Quarterly	4	\$18.00
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Editor (Name and complete mailing address)		
Terry Aitken 608 NW 119th Street, Vancouver, WA 98685-3802		
Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address)		

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No Stockholders - Dues Paying	
Members Only	

11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagors, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box None

Full Name	Complete Mailing Address
None	

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Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months

Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months (Publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement)

PS Form 3526, September 1995

(See Instructions on Reverse)

13. Publication Title	14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below	
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a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)	6,400	6,800
b. Paid and/or Requested Circulation		
(1) Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, and Counter Sales (Not mailed)	0	0
(2) Paid or Requested Mail Subscriptions (Include advertiser's proof copies and exchange copies)	5,792	5,945
c. Total Paid and/or Requested Circulation (Sum of 15b(1) and 15b(2))	5,792	5,945
d. Free Distribution by Mail (Samples, complimentary, and other free)	50	50
e. Free Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)	0	0
f. Total Free Distribution (Sum of 15d and 15e)	50	50
g. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15f)	5,842	5,995
h. Copies not Distributed		
(1) Office Use, Leftovers, Spoiled	559	805
(2) Returns from News Agents	0	0
i. Total (Sum of 15g, 15h(1), and 15h(2))	6,400	6,800
Percent Paid and/or Requested Circulation (15c / 15g x 100)	99.14%	99.17%
16. Publication of Statement of Ownership		
□ Publication required. Will be printed in the January, 2001 issue of the publication.		
□ Publication not required.		

17. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner
Sara R. Marley - American Iris Society Secretary *11/2/00*

I certify that all information contained on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including multiple damages and civil penalties).

Instructions to Publishers

1. Complete and file one copy of this form with your postmaster annually on or before October 1. Keep a copy of the completed form for your records.
2. In cases where the stockholder or security holder is a trustee, include in items 10 and 11 the name of the person or corporation for whom the trustee is acting. Also include the names and addresses of individuals who are stockholders who own or hold 1 percent or more of the total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities of the publishing corporation. In item 11, if none, check the box. Use blank sheets if more space is required.
3. Be sure to furnish all circulation information called for in item 15. Free circulation must be shown in items 15d, e, and f.
4. If the publication had second class authorization as a general or requester publication, this Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation must be published; it must be printed in any issue in October or, if the publication is not published during October, the first issue printed after October.
5. In item 16, indicate the date of the issue in which this Statement of Ownership will be published.
6. Item 17 must be signed.

Failure to file or publish a statement of ownership may lead to suspension of second-class authorization.

Membership Contest

Winners for 2000

by Lynda Miller, Indiana

Individual Participants:

Winner: Bob Keup, Region 2, 355 points

Affiliate Participants:

1st Place: Tulsa Area Iris Society, Region 22; 720 points

2nd Place: Memphis Area Iris Society, Region 7; 210 points

3rd Place: Adirondack Foothills Iris Daylily Society, Region 2: 150 points

4th Place: Utah Iris Society, Region 12: 60 points

The above individual and affiliates represent 37 single annual memberships, as well as triennial and dual annual memberships, Youth with and without *Bulletins*, conversion from single annual to dual triennial, single annual to single triennial and from dual annual to dual triennial memberships.

See following page for the 2001 Membership Contest rules and prizes. All participants will receive a copy of the winner's list and a certificate of participation. ☺

AIS Bulletin Index

(Under Construction)

Construction began with the newest *Bulletins* and is progressing back to the earliest issues. Check this website for index: <http://www.magpage.com/~gsis>. Click on the link on the left hand side for "AIS Bulletin Index".

Membership Contest

2001

by Lynda Miller, Indiana

THE 2001 MEMBERSHIP CONTEST ACTUALLY BEGAN OCTOBER 1, 2000. Three separate awards will be presented at the 2001 convention—one to the youth, one to the adult and one to the affiliate with the most total points. A minimum of 30 points and at least two participants in each category are necessary to qualify for the trophy plaques. Certificates of achievement will be awarded to all participants. A new 2001 Tall Bearded iris introduction will be awarded to affiliates earning 100 or more points and to individuals earning 55 or more points. Youth earn \$1.00 worth of iris for each point, up to \$50.00 worth. Names of the award winners will be published in the January, 2002 *Bulletin*.

Point Scale:

- 10 points for each new single annual membership
- 15 points for each new dual annual
- 20 points for each new single triennial
- 25 points for each new dual triennial
- 10 points for each new youth member added to an existing membership(same address)
- 25 points for each new youth member registered as a solitary member

The following points will be given for conversion from annual to triennial membership providing the membership has been in effect for a minimum of one year:

- 20 points for converting from single annual to single triennial
- 25 points for converting from dual annual to dual triennial
- 10 points for converting from single triennial to dual triennial
- 100 points for single life membership
- 150 points for dual life membership

Rules

1. Membership application and payment of dues are made directly to the AIS Membership Secretary. Dues may be submitted by the recruiter or by the new member.

2. Membership Chairman of the contestant's Region (if there is an active chairman) and the AIS Contest Chairman (Lynda Miller, 12788 E. 191st St., Noblesville, IN 46060) should be notified by the recruiter within 30 days. First submission can be checked back to October 1, 2000.

3. Each new membership should be reported with the following information: name, complete address and region number of the new member; the type of membership (annual, triennial, life) or conversion (single annual to single triennial, etc.). Also the name, address and region number of the recruiter. Only those memberships reported correctly will be awarded points. Please print clearly or type.

4. Renewal of memberships following a lapse of two years will count as new members.

5. New memberships received by the Membership Contest Chairman postmarked after October 1, 2002, or memberships not starting until January 2002, cannot be counted for the 2001 contest, but will be automatically credited to the recruiter for the 2002 contest. 

Web Site Hosting Offer

by John Jones, California

Mallorn Computing owned by Christopher Lindsey hosts many garden sites, and is the host for the AIS online checklist site www.irisregister.com. Mallorn has offered a special deal for hosting AIS Regional and Iris club websites.

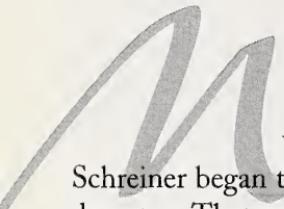
They offer 50 MB of disk space, domain name server service, email redirection, and FTP access for about \$120/year. It might be a little more—it depends on the number of emails forwards. That price doesn't include the cost of a domain name (like www.AISRegXXirises.org), so it would be \$155/year with Network Solutions fees (\$35/year) added in. This is a very good offer. Of course you can find free ISP service, but then you have to put up with those obnoxious ads and pop up windows.

You can see his main website at: <http://www.hort.net>

If you are interested contact Chris at <lindsey@mallorn.com> and mention the AIS special.

Remembering Bob Schreiner

by Bennett Jones, Oregon



Y LONG AND TREASURED FRIENDSHIP WITH BOB Schreiner began the day after my copy of their 1947 catalogue reached my doorstep. That catalogue was their first in color, it had a photograph of the very popular PINK CAMEO on its cover, and in those days color was something new. But more important to me was the astonishment I experienced when I discovered that their return address now was Salem, Oregon, just fifty miles down the road. As soon as I could get away, the next day to be exact, I drove down to Salem to find their garden and to introduce myself, in part, as the new RVP for Region 13, a position I had accepted with trepidation as I had been a member of AIS for only three years.

When I finally met Bob Schreiner, he asked about a Region Meeting and a Newsletter; I explained that there had been no organization within the region and I welcomed his input. He suggested that I contact two or three RVPs he knew. Armed with the encouragement I received from them and full of ideas, I went back to see Bob. Together we went to Silverton where he introduced me to Rholin Cooley, and together we planned our first Region Meeting for the following spring. I sent the announcement of the meeting to our members and to a half dozen local societies in California, offering as inducements the Cooley and Schreiner gardens, Weed's National Iris Garden in Beaverton, and the Walter Marx garden in Boring. We had more than fifty irisarians in attendance from California, our own members came, our meeting was a success, and Region 13 was on its way! Since there were no membership dues at the time, Bob and Rholin funded our first publication, a small two-page newspaper, copies of which can be found in the AIS and Greater Portland Iris Society Libraries.

Bob told me one day that while yet a teenager his father had given him a copy of Dykes' "The Genus Iris," a book that opened a whole new world of irises to him. Possessing an inquisitive mind, he soon sought correspondents from as far as the Balkan Countries and Turkey. In the late thirties he received seed of *I. pumila* from Crimea and Romania, eventually naming NANA, SULINA, and CARPATHIA,

three miniature dwarf irises that would soon change the iris world as it was known then. He distributed those three and their offspring to Paul Cook and Geddes Douglas, adding to their existing programs and leading to our present day Standard Dwarf Irises. At about the same time, Walter Welch had acquired *I. pumila* and other miniature dwarf species and was well into a successful breeding program. His enthusiasm prompted the formation of the Dwarf Iris Society and a series of test gardens around the country including one in Seattle. Bob and I went up to Seattle at bloom times to meet with friends and to see the quantities of species, hybrids, and named varieties that Walter sent out to stock the garden. Those are treasured days. As my interest in those tiny irises grew, Bob urged me to take them up and my work with dwarf irises began. I owe him much for that.

Each year when the irises were in bloom Bob, his sister Connie, and his brother Bernard (Gus to the family and friends) separately went through the rows of seedlings each day, placing a bamboo cane beside those each thought should be evaluated. At the end of the day, they went through again together for "group discussion." One day, late in the 1950s when I went down to see their irises, Bob, giving no hint of what was about to happen, invited me to accompany him on his tour of the seedlings. We went down the rows looking at and discussing those that had been selected; finally we came to the seedling I knew he had taken me to see, and it didn't take more than a second or two for me to understand why. It was the most beautiful plicata I had ever seen. "Large white areas sharply patterned blue-black-violet," is the brief description it was given when registered as STEPPING OUT in 1964. Irises such as this one don't come along with regularity; it became one of the most widely grown irises of the time, it was awarded the Dykes Medal in 1968, it has been a selection for the Symposium of the 100 best irises, where it remains today. That was an exciting day!

One of the most momentous experiences I shared with Bob came about as we co-chaired the National Convention here in Oregon in 1972. It was a matter of crisis and triumph. The committee had chosen the grand old Marion Hotel in Salem as headquarters partly because it was close to the gardens on the tour, and also because of its architecture and its elegant appointments. We felt that our members would enjoy being housed in history. All arrangements had been completed, contracts were signed, and we were ready to go—or so we thought! On November 12, 1971, just seven months before the Convention, my phone rang at five thirty in the morning; it was Bob to tell me that the Marion Hotel was

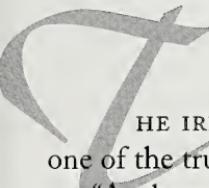
on fire, that it could not be saved. What should we do? I said come up, we'll talk with people at the Portland Chamber of Commerce to learn if we can save the Convention. They listened to our story and suggested that only the Hilton Hotel could house the number of guests we expected to have. They called the manager there, setting up an appointment for us to see him within the hour. We could scarcely believe it when, after listening to our plight, he said they were not booked for the dates we needed and that they could accommodate us. Then we explained that the rates for rooms and the registration fee had been set, published, and that we had reservations coming in. He listened to those figures that were considerably below what the Hilton commanded; he thought for a short time and then said he would meet them. We signed papers, he called his staff in for an introduction and to work out the details. We thanked him profusely and I never will forget when he replied, "Thank you, we need the business." Nor will I forget the relief we felt as we walked out the door. In the following three weeks we worked with the hotel staff, we ran new bus routes, we signed a contract with a bus company in Portland, and we were free to enjoy the Holiday season that year. On page 18 of the *Bulletin* for January, 1972, there is a brief paragraph explaining the loss of the Marion Hotel and the move to Portland; notable, I think, were the registration fee of forty-five dollars and room rates at ten-dollars single, fifteen double. The Convention began on May 24, our weather was bright and sunny, and our irises were at peak bloom. That Convention was dedicated to Connie Schreiner Kendall and Rholin Cooley whom we had recently lost.

Over the years on a rainy day in wintertime, I would often drive down to sit with Bob in the living room where there was always a roaring fire in the fireplace, he enjoyed that so much. We would look at the slides we had taken during the bloom season and talk of irises all afternoon, stopping only for the coffee and cookies that appeared just at the right time. He was my friend and I remember him for these and many more experiences I shared with him that mean so much to me now. I am the richer for having known Bob Schreiner. ☙

Robert Schreiner

JUNE 3, 1910 - AUGUST 3, 2000

by Keith Keppel, Oregon



HE IRIS RAINBOW LOST A BIT OF ITS LUSTER AUGUST 8, WHEN one of the truly greats of irisdom, Robert Schreiner, died at age ninety.

"As the twig is bent" comes to mind when contemplating his life. His father, Francis X. Schreiner, was a department store manager and buyer with a love of gardening. About 1917 he began growing and collecting irises, including all the newest European novelties, and by 1925 issued his first price list. In 1928 the first Schreiner catalogue was issued and the following year Francis left his job to devote full-time to the irises.

Francis encouraged his son to take an interest in the irises, and by age nine Robert had his own iris bed. How many parents would take a child out of school for the day to attend an iris show? Francis did, for the pioneer iris breeder Willis Fryer would be at the show, and he felt that Robert should meet him. As Francis was often away on buying trips, Robert was given the responsibility of planting and caring for the new acquisitions, including the expensive European imports. Francis gave his son a copy of Dykes' monograph *The Genus Iris*; Robert read of obscure species in exotic lands and wrote to university botanic departments and consulates seeking seed. By age fourteen Robert was making iris crosses, and a few years later began plant science studies at the University of Minnesota. Should the

AIS Youth Program ever need proof of what can be accomplished with proper encouragement, here is a shining example!

Unfortunately, Bob's studies were brought to an abrupt halt in 1931 when Francis died. Robert was only twenty years of age, but he was the eldest of the three children—Constance was two years younger, Bernard (Gus) nine years younger. The decision was made to continue with the iris business, despite the harsh realities of the depression era. Connie helped in the office and Gus worked in the fields when school was out. Then, as now, Schreiner's Gardens was very much a family affair, so much so that at times it is difficult to separate the individual from the whole.

But in the beginning it was very much Robert who did the iris breeding, and it was an eclectic approach. Consulting the planting chart

for the 1933 seed bed, one sees a prodigious number of tall bearded crosses listed. Also in abundance are crosses involving dwarfs, medians, or even pure arils as one parent or both. There were crosses involving *Iris aphylla* and others with *Iris albertii*. There were crosses between species of the juno section. Planted in boxes were "seeds from Europe": species seed from Austria, Bulgaria, Romania and Russia.

In 1935 the first Schreiner introduction 'Lucrezia Bori' appeared. While we tend to think of Schreiner irises as tall bearded, during the next ten years the Schreiner catalogues also listed introductions that were from $\frac{1}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ onco: Peshawar (1937), Toussaint l'Ouverture (1939), Mermaid (also 1939—not registered), Coquetry (1941) and Suez (1944). Intermediates—by breeding and season, but often just a bit too tall to qualify for the class under present-day terms—were Andalusian Blue (1937), Alaska (1940), Black Hawk (1941), Ruby Glow (1941), Marine Wave (1942) and Spring Glow (1942).

In 1942 Bob introduced three pure *Iris pumila* seedlings: Carpathia and Sulina, both from seed sent from the Botanic Garden, Cluj, Romania, and Nana, from seed collected in Crimea. Although further dwarf breeding does not show up in the introduction pages until much later, these three clones are of paramount importance, for they were used by Paul Cook, Geddes Douglas and others, to cross with the talls. (It should be noted that this represents the first addition of pumila to the bearded iris melting pot in this country; references to "pumila" in the 1939 Check List should be read as "dwarf" ... nearly always some form of chamaeiris, never pumila.)

Bob was interested in dark irises from the beginning, and Ethiop Queen (1938) was quite creditable, but it was the border-sized Black Forest (1945), which included genes from *Iris aphylla*, that brought on the quick succession of larger, truly dark talls. First generation Black Forest offspring are Black Mischief, Storm Warning (both 1953) and Tabu (1954), and Black Castle (1953) has a Black Forest sib as pod parent.

Another early breeding thrust was for laced irises in a wide range of colors. Lace had appeared in Sass seedling beds in the early thirties, but the Sass brothers thought of them mainly as freaks from too much inbreeding and did not follow through. Garden visitors would buy these seedlings as novelties, and it was Dave Hall, of flamingo pink fame, who brought lace to the fore in 1943 with his Chantilly. Prior to Chantilly's debut, Bob had begun a program including the Sass variety Matula, and in 1953 introduced the laced orchid Lavanesque, followed the next year by Orchid Ruffles and Crispette. In 1955 Carmela brought lace into the

brownish tones. This early work stands behind the modern laced lovelies from Salem.

Talk of Schreiner talls and you almost invariably think of blues—and reds—two of the color classes so heavily explored over the years. Both have foundations going back to Bob's early work. For a while there was strong emphasis on browns and blends, but these lines dwindled as they no longer seem to be "commercial".

And sometimes you're never quite satisfied, but you don't give up. As the business became larger, Bob's schedule became more demanding. Overseeing operations overall, doing photography, public relations, whatever... increasingly less time was available for the breeding program. Brother Gus was in charge of field operations, including seedlings and the breeding program, but there was always input from Bob, and all three siblings consulted when it came time to pick introductions for the next year's catalogue. But Bob never lost his interest in breeding, even with the smaller irises. He kept a few seedlings near the house, work using *Iris reichenbachii*, intermediate-sized flowers in wine red to magenta tones with strong blue beards. Some of their tall bearded descendants are in the seedling fields now, and we hope "the right one" comes along so we all can share that blue-bearded red that Bob envisioned.

You can only wonder if that teenager in Minnesota had any idea where life would lead, and what a profound effect he would have on irises and irisarians. How the difficult move from St. Paul to Salem in the 1940's would result in an iris nursery covering hundreds of acres. That he would receive the AIS Distinguished Service Medal in 1972, that the Schreiners (Bob, Gus and Connie as a team) would be awarded the Hybridizers Medal in 1954, and he would personally receive the seldom-awarded AIS Gold Medal in 1994. Awards came not only from iris societies or from America. The Foster Memorial Plaque from the British Iris Society in 1963, the Massachusetts Horticultural Society medal for noteworthy service in horticulture in 1975, and the Perennial Plant Association Distinguished Service Medal in 1988 come to mind.

A listing of awards to Schreiner irises would be tedious. Let it suffice to mention in passing the numerous Dykes Medals and top awards at the international competition in Florence as a small sample of the total, and let them stand as yet one more monument to the importance of this man whose iris breeding program as a teenager started it all. That twig grew into a mighty tree. ☺

Eleanor Shepp McCown

1911 - 2000

by Bob Brooks, California

LEANOR SHEPP McCOWN, WINNER OF THE AIS HYBRIDIZER'S Medal in 1989, passed away early Saturday morning, October 21, 2000. Eleanor Irene Shepp was born in Pasadena, California on June 16, 1911. She performed on stage in high school, college, and the Pasadena Playhouse. Following receipt of her BA degree from La Verne College, in 1933 Miss Shepp was hired to teach first through fourth grade in a rural school near Holtville, California, in the hot Imperial Valley. On June 1, 1935, Eleanor married Frank McCown in Yuma, Arizona. The young couple made their home on the McCown family ranch where she continued to live after Frank's passing in May, 1971, until her recent death.

Eleanor's lifelong passion for gardening began with the propagation of begonias at the age of five. Over the years she hybridized many varieties of flowers including double flowered amaryllis. However she is best known for her many spuria iris introductions beginning with IMPERIAL SONG in 1962 and culminating with several Eric Nies Award winners: HIGHLINE LAVENDER 1971, IMPERIAL BRONZE 1975, IMPERIAL RUBY 1981, HIGHLINE HONEY 1983, ADOBE SUNSET 1984, IMPERIAL GOLD 1985, BETTY COOPER 1986, JANICE CHESNIK 1988, and HIGHLINE CORAL 1991. When the Eric Nies Award was upgraded to the Eric Nies Medal in 1993, BETTY COOPER came back to win the first medal.

In recent years Eleanor started using Iris halophila in an effort to produce smaller spuria varieties for the less spacious gardens of current tract developments. Only two were introduced before she gave up hybridizing, PIECES OF EIGHT, and the aptly named HIGHLINE SNOWFLAKE, second runner up to the Eric Nies Medal winner in 2000. &

The American Iris Society Foundation

Call for Proposals

We would like to encourage anyone who has an idea for research or education about irises that fits within the broad goals to submit a proposal for funding. The Foundation typically can invest up to \$20,000 per year in projects that support its goals.

Objectives of the Foundation

By its charter, the Foundation exists to:

- Foster and encourage education and scientific research to improve the standards of excellence of the genus Iris.
- Stimulate general interest in all species and cultivars of Iris.
- Administer awards and honors to worthy individuals, institutions, and organizations for advancement in the breeding, culture, use, literature, or scientific study of Iris or related genera.

Proposals

Proposals should clearly describe the objectives and significance of the work to be supported, provide enough detail of the methods and approaches to allow assessment of its feasibility, outline the time-frame for its completion, and describe how it is expected to forward the goals of the Foundation. Where appropriate, a curriculum vitae or other evidence of the capabilities of the applicant to conduct the work should be provided. It is expected that a report on the use of the funds will be submitted to the Foundation upon completion of the project and that significant scientific findings will be published in a timely fashion. Part of the award may be withheld until reports and/or manuscripts are received by the Foundation. Prior discussion with one of the Foundation Officers regarding the suitability of the concept and proposed funding level is encouraged. Proposals may be submitted to the Chairman/President at any time. Examples of projects funded in the past include research on iris genetics and taxonomy, research on iris pathogens and diseases, and the collection of new species. The Foundation has also provided funds to support the AIS library and the Ackerman Youth Essay contest.

Officers of the Foundation

President/Chairman: Dr. Robert M. Hollingworth. 124 Sherwood Rd. E., Williamston, MI 48895. (517) 349-8121, cyberiris@netscape.net

Secretary/Treasurer: Roger P. Mazur. 5824 Erskine #7, Omaha, NE 68104. (402) 553-8836, rpmazur@msn.com

Vice-President: Dorothy Willott. 26231 Shaker Blvd., Beachwood, OH 44122. (216) 831-8662, dwiris@aol.com.

Minutes

of the Board of Directors Meeting

Lincoln, Nebraska, November 3-5 2000

The Fall meeting of the Board of Directors of the American Iris Society was called to order by President Clarence Mahan at 7:26 P.M. on November 3, 2000. Mahan thanked Region 21 and the Lincoln Iris Society for hosting this meeting. He invited all present to participate in discussions.

Present during the various sessions were: **Officers:** President Mahan, Immediate Past President Niswonger, 1st Vice-President and Editor Aitken, 2nd Vice-President J. Plank, Secretary Marley, Treasurer Hudson; **Directors:** Epperson, B. Figge, Gossett, J. Jones, Jean Morris, B. Nichols, Perkins, N. Pocklington, Pope, Probst; **RVP Representative:** F. Evers (20); **Past President:** C. Barr; **Committee Chairs:** Harder, B. Mull, Rice-Waters, G. Snyder; **RVPs:** Lewonski (3), Mull (4), Boyson (7), Meyer (11), Ludi (13), Loberg (14), B. Nichols (17), Jim Morris (18), Evers (20), B. Figge (23); **RVP-Elect:** M. VandeBrake (8), G. Snyder (15), R. Keisling (18), M. D. Faith (22); **General Counsel** R. Plank; **Parliamentarian:** R. Figge; **Guests:** M. Brown (4); A. & D. Willott (6); Riggs (8); J. Keisling (18); Newburn, Rader, Reuter, G. White, O. & H. Wulf (21); J. Faith (22).

Mahan requested approval of the appointment of Carryl Meyer as Recording Secretary *pro tem*. Unanimous approval.

Minutes: The following addition was made to the minutes of the 2000 Spring meeting as published in AIS *Bulletin* #318:

Attendees: pg. 68: add RVP Orville Dickhaut and Lu Dickhaut (9).

J. Plank moved that the minutes be approved as corrected; Niswonger seconded. Carried.

Board of Directors Election: Mahan reported that since there were no additional nominations, Roy Epperson, Paul Gossett, Jean Morris and Bonnie Nichols are duly elected and qualified as Directors with terms expiring in 2003. Mahan requested reaffirmation of the appointment of John Jones to replace Director Mike Moller who resigned. Niswonger moved approval; Epperson seconded. Carried.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

President: Mahan requested Board approval of the re-appointment of Rosalie Figge as AIS Parliamentarian. Approval was unanimous.

- Mahan announced that Anner Whitehead has accepted appointment as Project Director of the New Iris Historical Chronicles Committee and requested reaffirmation of the appointment. Pocklington moved approval; Marley seconded. Carried.
- Affirmation requested for awarding an Honorary Life Membership in the AIS to Dr. Rodionenko plus sending him the last 12 issues of the *Bulletin*. J. Plank moved approval; Niswonger seconded. Carried.

First Vice President: No report.

Second Vice President: J. Plank noted that she had been the collecting point for applications for Editor (0) and Membership Secretary (7).

Secretary: Marley announced that her office would be closed November 11-18 while she

completes her move to Hannibal, N. Y. She again noted the need to observe the 6 month limit on the age of checks as late submission of checks by committee chairmen may ultimately result in a loss of revenue.

Treasurer: Hudson distributed the report of the fiscal year ending on 30 September, 2000. He noted that AIS had completed another year of increased revenue and financial growth. He predicted that revenues would continue to grow with a corresponding growth in our reserves.

Editor: Aitken reported there have been no applicants for the Editor's position and recommended that Bruce Filardi be approved as Assistant Editor. Mahan appointed Filardi as Assistant Editor. Plank moved approval; Pope seconded. Carried.

Aitken stated that 2001 *Bulletins* will include more color at a lower price. Projected expenses for 2001 call for a new computer system to include a Power Mac G4, CD and Zip writers, slide scanner, flatbed scanner, color accurate monitor and color printer plus the following software: OCR, InDesign 1.5^o and Photoshop 6.0^o. Projected cost is \$7000. Hudson moved that AIS approve the purchase of this equipment; J. Jones seconded. Carried.

A candidate to replace Scott Aitken as Graphic Design Consultant is being tried out.

Advertising Editor: Written report in which Peters summarized revenues and activities for the past year. He continues to recruit new advertisers and detailed innovative plans to promote and increase the use of color advertising among beardless iris specialists.

Mahan presented a case in which a buyer received neither the iris ordered nor a refund from a *Bulletin* advertiser. Peters requested authority to drop any individual advertiser for bad business practices. and asked that the Board affirm this. B. Plank advised careful investigation of 'bad business practices' to minimize the possibility of a trade-libel law suit.

Epperson noted that a policy drawn up by Jean Ericson and Mike Lowe in spring of 1996 was tabled until the Fall meeting of that year. In Fall 1996 it was removed from the table and passed as amended. However, it appears that it was never recorded in the minutes. This will be followed up in the spring. Mahan asked for approval of the appointment of Advertising Editor Harold Peters. Niswonger moved approval; Plank seconded. Carried.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REPORTS

Membership: Mahan requested reaffirmation of Anner Whitehead's appointment as AIS Membership Secretary at a salary of \$8,200. J. Plank moved affirmation; Gossett seconded. Carried.

Since this was the month of transition, Harlow submitted the Membership Report. She reported a total membership of 7736, a net loss of 50 members for the fiscal year. Leading regions are 14, 4, 18; Regions 7 and 17 are tied for fourth place.

Harlow noted that she had been in office more than 10 years and that the AIS equipment and software she used were of the same vintage, thus not compatible with Whitehead's system. Mahan requested that the Board reaffirm the purchase of a new computer and related hardware/software for the office of Membership Secretary at a cost of \$3000. Marley moved affirmation; J. Plank seconded. Carried.

A letter from Whitehead detailing the present status of the office was distributed. Data can now be safely transferred and there will be no delay in membership duties and services.

Mahan presented a case requiring a policy decision: A couple who are Life Members but no longer active, requested that their *Bulletin* be sent to their daughter's out-of-state address instead of to their legal residence. It is apparent that approval of this request would result in someone other than the member(s) receiving the *Bulletin*. Epperson cited Art. III, Section 2 (c) of the AIS Bylaws which clearly states that Life Memberships are non-transferable. No further policy needed.

Harlow expressed thanks to those with whom she has worked for the past decade. Marley moved that the AIS go on record as commending Marilyn Harlow for the outstanding services rendered during her tenure as Membership Secretary; J. Jones seconded. Carried.

Registrar: Written Report. Keppel stated that he is getting the *2000 Registrations and Introductions* booklet ready for the printer so that it can be distributed in early January. He requested direction re the number of *2000 R&I* to be printed. Epperson moved that 1000 be printed and sold at \$7 as in 2000; Pope seconded. Carried. Pocklington dissented because of potential retention and storage concerns.

New target date for *1999 Check List* copy finalization is late winter. The Board has already approved printing of 3000 copies; price not yet set. Mike Lowe has made a backup of the data for the *1999 Check List*.

Recording Secretary: No report.

Publication Sales: N. Pocklington distributed the Storefront Inventory. She noted that stock of seals needed replenishing, and moved that she be authorized to order 25,000 AIS Seals at a cost of \$560 + tax; Probst seconded. Carried. No source is listed for RVP pins. Mahan asked Jeanne Plank to contact Bobbie Shepherd regarding this source.

Excess Inventory items:

- Pocklington moved approval of the plan to contact schools, and other appropriate groups in her area to see if they could use old calendar pictures with left-overs going to the local recycling center; Jean Morris seconded. Carried.
- Pocklington moved that surplus *R & I* booklets (1999 and before) be offered at a one time Clearance Sale price of \$2 each; Probst seconded. Carried. Available issues will be advertised in the January *Bulletin*. On the website it will be noted that a list of available Sale Material can be obtained by sending a SASE to Pocklington.
- Pocklington suggested that surplus postcards be sold to commercial vendors. J. Plank moved that the cards be sold at \$1/pack in lots of 100 packs or more; Epperson seconded. Carried.
- During discussion of ways to downsize the inventory of older *Bulletins*, it was suggested that some of the older *Bulletins* might be transferred to the HIPS Publication Sales office and that some might also be donated to the Silent Auction. Following suggestions from Mahan and Gossett, Pocklington moved that AIS offer 10 packs of 10 different *Bulletins* each to the Silent Auction. Probst seconded. Carried.
- Niswonger moved that a copy of each *Bulletin* in stock be sent to New Historical Iris Chronicles Project Director Whitehead; Epperson seconded. During discussion, J. Jones moved that the motion be amended to include a set for the Electronic Services Committee for use on the internet. Epperson seconded; Amendment Carried. The amended motion was voted on and carried.
- Pocklington moved that the more recent *Bulletins* be placed in the Clearance Sale at \$2 each; Probst seconded. Carried.

Surplus Bulletins: Gossett reported that 2600+ *Bulletins* have been sent out since April 2000, and less than 700 remain in his hands at this time. Transition to C. Meyer in January 2001 proceeding smoothly.

RVP Representative: Mahan welcomed Fran Evers (20) as the new RVP Representative. Evers stated that she had no issues from RVPs to bring before the Board. Region 7 RVP Boyson reported two problems concerning the Symposium ballot instructions which are at odds with the current RVP manual. Probst stated that this manual is in the process of being revised and that he will address these issues later in the meeting.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Operations Manual Draft: Epperson announced that he has received 6 job descriptions so far. He will contact all others in late winter. He briefly described the content and format that he plans to use and hopes to have a first draft ready by the Spring meeting.

Bulletin Indexing: Aitken reported that the committee is winding down the project.

BIC Revision/Reprint: Epperson reported that the *Basic Iris Culture* revision and reprint has been completed and that sufficient copies are in the Storefront.

Dues and Services: Hudson noted that the committee has never officially met, but that he felt a small dues increase should not be delayed. The pros and cons for increasing dues were discussed in-depth. Hudson moved that effective 1 January, 2002, all annual dues, including those for overseas members, each be increased by \$2.00 as follows: Single annual membership dues \$20 (\$25 overseas;); Dual annual dues \$25 (\$27 overseas); Niswonger seconded. Carried. The 2002 date allows for proper notice and advertising of this increase.

Epperson noted that there are enough *Invitations to Join* for the coming year and new ones for 2002 will reflect changes in personnel and dues.

RVP Handbook Revision: Probst reported that a rough draft has been completed and is ready for review by Board members and all RVPs (in-coming, current and out-going). Copies will be sent to all concerned and following receipt of modifications, a final draft will be presented for approval at the Spring meeting.

Non-profit Incorporation and Tax Exempt Status for Sections, Regions and Affiliates (501(c)3 Status): R. Plank noted the many barriers encountered since submission of a lengthy application form in June. Final approval still pending.

Establishment of a subsidiary incorporated fund: Hudson reported no action since the Spring meeting during which guidelines for establishment of this fund were presented. Following discussion it was recommended that the mechanism for handling gifts to AIS of real property, stock, or large sums of money can be finalized when needed. Hudson moved approval; J. Plank seconded. Carried.

Convention Handbook Revision: Gossett distributed draft copies to all Board members and requested corrections/additions. He thanked all those who had worked with him and Mullin to complete this project. He especially thanked the Tulsa Iris Society who has under-written the cost of printing 200 copies of this handbook. Mahan asked that the minutes note a vote of Board appreciation to this group for their generous support of this project.

During discussion of equipment needs during meetings, it was stated that rental of certain types of equipment is often expensive and requests for such should be made well ahead of time. When the Convention scheduler contacts sections, space for additional or specialized equipment needs should be included in the letter that goes out to each group. Gossett suggested that any group needing specialized expensive equipment should offer to share the rental cost.

J. Jones requested the procedure for getting the 'Geek' Dinner and the Computer Iris Group meeting on the standard convention schedule. Following lengthy discussion, Gossett moved that these two activities be added to the list of scheduled activities; Probst seconded. Carried.

Gossett moved that this *Convention Handbook*, with the suggested revisions, be approved; Jean Morris seconded. Carried. The list of upcoming conventions in the *Bulletin* will note that the new *Convention Handbook* is available from the Storefront at no cost. The old *Handbook* will be destroyed.

New Historical Iris Chronicles Project: Status report from Project Director Whitehead was distributed. This detailed report stated the objectives of the project, work now in progress and suggestions for future chronicles. Whitehead listed and thanked those currently providing input and information for starting and continuing this project. This committee will be considered a Standing Committee and the *ad hoc* Chronicles Committee is dissolved.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Affiliates: Chairman Pope reported a total of 184 affiliates, an increase of 7 since 1999, four (4) of which are in Region 2.

She commented briefly on the written report submitted by Affiliate Awards Project Chairman Bob Keup which contained the proposed Affiliate Contest Worksheet as well as definitions of the purpose of each category which can earn points for a club. At the 2000 Spring Board meeting it was decided that the adoption in principle would be become permanent following a report to the Board at this meeting, therefore the project is now in effect.

Awards: Written report. Chairman Campbell thanked the 4 tabulators for their help. The list of HC winners will appear in the January *Bulletin*. Epperson noted that most of the HC votes came from Regions 1 and 6 where seedlings are widely distributed and viewing by judges is highly encouraged. Campbell stated that failure to follow instructions resulted in both sections of and/or entire ballots being voided.

Epperson requested clarification of the policy regarding the rounding off to next higher number when tabulating the top 10% of HM winners. (For example: 4.1 becomes 5.0.) Discussion affirmed that this was the accepted and approved practice.

Calendars: Chairman Rice-Waters presented four recommendations for expediting production and sale of the 2002 calendar and noted that no policy changes were involved. Epperson moved that Rice-Waters' proposals be accepted; Hudson seconded. Carried

Convention Liaison: Chairman Gossett distributed a list of the sites of upcoming National and Fall conventions along with a tentative schedule for the 2001 Convention prepared by Carol Warner. Judges Training sessions were discussed and several topics and presenters were finalized.

The Piedmont-Carolina group in Spartanburg, S.C. has lost its hotel and has asked to be released from hosting the 2004 AIS Convention. Region 14 has agreed to host Convention 2004 in Fresno. Gossett moved that the Board accept the Region 14 offer; Pope seconded. Carried.

Both the Tucson Iris Society and the Santa Rosa Iris Society have extended invitations to host the 2003 Fall Board Meeting. Gossett moved that since Tucson offered first, the Tucson offer be accepted; Jean Morris seconded. Carried.

Epperson noted that 2005 fall meeting was open. He offered to give the 2001 Fall meeting in North Carolina to the Santa Rosa group in exchange for the 2005 Fall meeting. Region 8 RVP Marsha VandeBrake offered to host the 2004 Fall Meeting in Minneapolis. Action pending on all of these and will be dealt with as interim action.

Mahan reported that since the TBIS governing body has voted not to accept the AIS invitation to become a section, no meeting will be scheduled for TBIS during National Conventions.

J. Plank has been approached regarding the possibility of TBIS 'piggy-backing' their spring meeting with the Region 15 Spring meeting in Santa Rosa. She stated that the president of the host society had refused. Plank requested that the Board express their feelings regarding this. R. Keisling (18) assured the Board that TBIS would organize its own meals, meetings and busses; they would only be joining the regional garden tours. Concern was expressed that these gardens might not be equipped to handle a large number of extra visitors. RVP Ludi stated that Region 13 had an excellent 2000 Spring Regional despite the conflicting TBIS Trek in Portland.

Region 14 was reported to have been approached as well, but RVP Loberg stated that to her knowledge no formal request was ever made.

Mahan summarized the discussion by stating that the Board could not support any proposal that might influence attendance at an AIS Spring convention, and that acceptance or refusal would have to be a matter of conscience and judgment within each region/society.

Donations: Chairman J. Plank noted that overall donations were down. Correct use of new forms has been good; affiliates are not contributing to General Fund as before (perhaps because

the need for funds does not appear to be as acute) and some confusion still remains regarding Foundation vs AIS Funds.

Electronic Services: Chairman J. Jones presented an update on online projects in progress. He reported that Mallorn, the Internet Service Provider (ISP), was offering a special rate to regions, affiliates and sections who want webpages. Following a detailed explanation of fees and services, Jones moved that AIS approve an announcement in the next two issues of the *Bulletin* to the effect that website hosting is available from Mallorn at an attractive price; Plank seconded. Carried

Jones announced that Joanna Middleton (Treasurer Hudson's daughter) who owns and operates the Garden Shops Online (GSO) website has offered to build and manage an online AIS Gift Shop. She is imminently qualified to do this and offers to AIS 15% of gross sales of iris-related items and merchandise bearing the AIS logo. She also suggests a 10% discount to AIS members who would be identified by use of an AIS ID number. It was noted that this project was a new concept for AIS and that we must move cautiously. Jones presented a draft copy of a contract for setting up an online AIS Gift Shop. The 19 contract provisions were discussed in detail and terms were modified according to the concerns and recommendations of the Board. During discussion, Hudson showed several items which would be carried in the AIS Gift Shop and Board members were pleased with the quality and aesthetic value displayed.

Jones moved that the arrangements detailed in items 1 through 19 be approved by the Board as amended and that the Board authorize the Chairman of the Electronic Services Committee to create an appropriate contract with Mrs. Middleton, said contract to be reviewed by counsel and subsequently approved by the Officers of AIS; Epperson seconded. Carried. Hudson abstained. Jones noted that approval can be accomplished via email and it is possible that the AIS Gift Shop can be online by the end of January.

Jones also requested that a special committee be appointed to monitor and approve items sold under the AIS logo. B. Plank advised insertion of a statement that approval should not be unreasonably withheld. The Committee would have the authority to withdraw any item deemed offensive or deleterious to AIS. It was felt that the committee should be comprised of no less than three independent knowledgeable and experienced irisarians. Mahan appointed J. Plank as Committee Chair with other members to be appointed and approved via email. Marley moved approval; Niswonger seconded. Carried.

Regarding the search for a new webmaster, Jones announced that he is working with Scott Aitken and Kitty Loberg to effect a smooth transition when Scott steps down. A vote of appreciation was extended to Scott for initiating the AIS website. By consensus it was approved that the webmaster would serve under the direction of the Electronic Services Committee for matters of policy, function, content and update. It will no longer be a Standing Committee.

Exhibitions: Chairman Epperson reported approval of 181 Spring and 6 Fall show schedules, with 176 shows reporting to date. With the exception of Region 16, there was at least one show scheduled in each region. Region 22 (Arkansas and Oklahoma) mounted the most shows-16. The Nelson Award to honor the iris most often selected Best Specimen of show is currently a tie (9 times each) between **Conjuration** and **Dusky Challenger**. The diversity in types of irises winning this honor was noted. Jim Morris (18) suggested several changes that should be made in the Show Report form and Epperson agreed to address these when preparing a new form for Spring 2001.

Foundation Liaison: No report.

Historian: Chairman Harder reported that one box of material has been sent to the Library and there are 2 more ready to go. He announced that in fall 2001, he will give up his position as AIS Historian following 25 years of service on the Historial committee. On behalf of the Board, Mahan commended Harder for his long and faithful service to AIS.

Honorary Awards: The Board adjourned to Executive Session to discuss the recommendations of the Honorary Awards Committee and the Chairman of Judges. Following the executive session, Chairman Niswonger announced the following awards: Hybridizers Medal: Howard Shockey, John Taylor (Australia) and Jean Cayeux (France); Distinguished Service Medal: Marilyn Harlow, Glenn Corlew and Lewis and Adele Lawyer; Emeritus Judge: Larry Harder, Virginia Messick, Lynda Miller and Steve Varner; Warburton Medal jointly to Thomas and Anne Blanco White (England).

Niswonger presented a request from Bee Warburton's two daughters for copies of the Warburton Medal. J. Plank moved that one medal be sent to each; Hudson seconded. Carried.

Mahan noted that Italian members follow our Handbook and observe our judging standards. The Italian judging program has been under the competent management of Margaret Cameron Longo for many years. He recommended that Longo be awarded an Honorary Life Membership and be named an Emeritus Judge to honor all that she has done to promote AIS. Epperson moved approval; Niswonger seconded. Carried unanimously.

Niswonger noted that cheap 'scratch-type' engraving was not in keeping with the quality of AIS medals and he asked for Board approval to expend the necessary extra funds for 'good' engraving. Approved by consensus.

Insurance: G. Snyder reported for Chairman M. Snyder. She is continuing to investigate increased liability coverage to meet requirements of many malls and expanded coverage to include all members, not just those who belong to AIS.

Judges' Handbook Revision: Epperson stated that he has sent every judge the latest revisions and that they are now available through the Storefront.

Judges and Judges Training: The written report contained voting records for each region during 2000. Chairman Mullin expressed concern about the current voting records of garden judges. He also noted that it is becoming more apparent that many become judges to judge shows only, while others do not want to judge shows at all. He asked that the Board again consider pros and cons of having a separate category of judges who judge shows only.

The proposed list of AIS Judges for 2001 was distributed. Epperson moved that Mullin's report be accepted as presented; Pope seconded. Carried.

Mahan announced that Mullin will be stepping down as Chairman of this committee following the Fall Meeting in 2001.

Library: Chairman McNames' written report stated that the revised contract with the City of Silverton has been shelved by the City Manager because the wording regarding disposition of materials and an acceptable time frame of contract closure could not be agreed upon by both parties. Thus the original contract remains in force until 11/16/2005 with AIs being aware that certain items are not being provided by Silverton.

McNames stated that since grant funding is targeted to groups/libraries that deal with the general public, the AIS Library does not meet the criteria for grant monies. He requested Board approval to shelve the attempt to file for a National Grant. Epperson moved approval; J. Plank seconded. Carried.

Prior to discussion regarding the current Library contract, Hudson reported on his recent visit to the Library and presented photos to illustrate his point when he said the location was bad. He feels that we should seek another site and relocate as quickly as possible. Counsel B. Plank stated that currently there is no legal solution to the problem nor do we have a place to go, and he recommended that AIS begin the search for a new permanent site, noting that Silverton would probably be delighted to see us vacate the premises at the earliest possible date-(i.e. breaking the contract would not distress them). Under the present contract, we have adequate time and we should not unduly hasten the process of relocation. It was also noted that McNames would not relocate to a new Library site in order to continue as AIS Librarian.

Several suggestions for a new site were offered. Nichols asked if the Board would be interested in the possibility of permanently housing the AIS Library at the Clark complex in Texas. Many are familiar with the beautiful landscaping and extensive gardens owned by Max and Billie Clark. Nichols agreed to present the idea to the Max and Billie Clark Foundation if AIS desires. Mahan stated that he was sure that AIS would be happy to entertain any proposal for a permanent site for the Library. For more information and the Foundation mission statement, contact <<http://www.clarkgardens.com>>

Hudson stated his concerns regarding dangers to the Sèvres vase as presently displayed (on an open shelf) in the AIS Library. He suggested that it be appraised and a decision regarding its future be made in the Spring. Mahan suggested that a motion also include the Boehm Iris which he will soon send to the Library. Hudson moved that these two appraisals be done; Jean Morris seconded. Carried. McNames will be instructed to arrange for these appraisals prior to the Spring Meeting.

Membership Contest: Written report. Chairman Miller reported that Individual winner was Bob Keup (2) and Tulsa Area Iris Society was Affiliate winner won. Full details will appear in the January *Bulletin*. Pope moved to accept the report; Epperson seconded. Carried.

Policy: Written report. Chairman M. Lowe feels that the present policy format is unwieldy and the utility of the index is decreasing as policy size increases. A different type of index will be forthcoming in the spring. Epperson noted that the single subject compilation as noted would be of immense value in compiling the Operations Manual. He and Lowe have discussed this.

Lowe recommended that in order to "legitimize" the voting process conducted via email, any votes taken when the Board is not in session will be voted on at the next meeting. It was decided by consensus that the Secretary will compile a list of items approved as interim actions and present the list for reaffirmation by the Board at each meeting.

Public Relations: No report.

Rare Iris Study Center: Niswonger reported that Waddick has received two papers from Dr. Rodionenko which he is presently preparing for Sigma. Niswonger has received rhizomes of onococylus species which he has distributed among several growers. Harder reported that his plants have bloomed twice.

Registrations: Written report. To date 589 registrations have been completed (down from 994 in 1999) This drop is due in part to people rushing to finalize registrations last year so as to be included in the ten-year check list.

Robins: Written report. Most robins flying well. Not sufficient interest shown to start Hybridizers or Space Age robins. Rate of growth of electronic robins may account for some lack of interest in traditional postal robins. Regarding the absence of *Flightlines* in the current *Bulletin*, B. Figge explained that robin notes given her did not contain sufficient information to allow her to credit the writers. Jim Morris noted that the Median Society has a prolific robin program and suggested that they and other sections be contacted for material. Figge noted that she has material on hand for the next *Bulletin*.

RVP Counselor: B. Figge distributed the following list of recommended RVP appointments for 2001:

Terms expiring in 2001:

Region 1	Ada Godfrey	Region 17	Bonnie Nichols
2	Peter Weixlmann	19	Raymond Rogers
3	Vince Lewonski	20	Fran Evers
4	JaNiece Mull	21	Carolyn Lingenfelter
5	Randall Bowen	23	Barbara Figge

Terms expiring in 2002:		
Region 7	Eleanor Boyson	Region 13 John Ludi
12	Leon Robertson	24 Hazel Jones

Terms expiring in 2003:		
Region 6	Sandra Rawlings	Region 14 Margaret Sutton
8	Marsha VandeBrake	15 Gerry Snyder
9	Nancy Pocklington	16 Sandy Ives
10	Charles J. Walkowiak	18 Ray Keisling
11	Eileen Allison	22 M. D. Faith

B. Figge moved approval of all candidates; Niswonger seconded. Carried.

Scientific: Chairman Fulton reported that he had nothing to report. Discussion revealed an ongoing desire for information on control of scorch and it was suggested that information recently published in regional and section publications should be reprinted in the *Bulletin*. The need for chromosome counts was raised by T. Willott. J. Jones reported that he and Sandy Ives were looking into the costs of equipment and procedure and would report in the Spring. Several iris related scientific studies sponsored by other groups were cited.

Scholarship: Written report. Chairman Taylor stated that Peter Van Zandt, recipient of the 2000-2001 Scholarship, has received the first half of his award. His mid-term progress report has been received and accepted. Final report from the 1998-2000 scholarship winner, Jill Johnston, is pending. Announcements for 2001-2002 scholarship applications will go out in early January 2001. (Copy of this new announcement was included with report.)

Section Liaison: The list of officials of the sections and cooperating societies, distributed by Chairman Probst, was updated from the floor. A corrected copy will be sent to all Board members. The current list of scheduled Section Mini-Conventions was also distributed, and Probst noted that there were 4 meetings scheduled in 2001, none conflicting. Mahan informed the group that the Membership Secretary would continue to accept section dues and would forward the membership information to the sections in a timely manner. Mahan noted that this is one service AIS can provide to the sections.

Silent Auction: Chairman Meyer reported that she had taken over from Maxine Perkins in September and requested that all Board members provide items for this fund-raiser. She asked that descriptions and other pertinent information on items being donated be sent in early with the items themselves being brought or sent to the convention in York.

Slides: Chairman Bill Mull gave a status report of slides on hand and distributed a 'menu' of available slide sets. All iris slides are welcome, and especially needed are slides of gardens, iris in landscapes, conventions, and iris themselves. Mahan noted that slide sets are a great way to promote irises. It was emphasized that AIS slide sets were an excellent means for hybridizers to gain exposure for their new introductions. Mull noted that it is extremely difficult to obtain slides of new introductions. Instructions for ordering slide sets will appear in the *Bulletin*.

Symposium: Chairman G. Snyder noted several small problems with the recent symposium which have been resolved. He stressed that symposium ballots should be sent to the RVP who tabulates them and sends the results to Snyder.

Snyder reported that several requests have been made to include all types of iris on the Symposium. In depth study reveals that this is not feasible and that the present system is adequate. Epperson moved that the Symposium remain as it is; Pocklington seconded. Carried.

Jim Morris asked if it would be possible to publish the top 10 irises from each section symposium in the *Bulletin*. By consensus it was agreed that Probst would work with the sections and Editor Aitken to bring this about. All results will be published on the AIS website.

Youth: Chairman Morris reported 263 regular youth members and 151 CIP members for a total of 414 youth members. Overall winner of the Youth Coloring Contest was Rachel Hindle (18). There are Regional Youth Chairs in every region except 10. See *Bulletin* for more detailed report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Region 2 RVP Weixlmann was not present. It was reported that the region continues to work on reorganization.
- Fran Evers is Chairman of the 2001 Nominating committee

NEW BUSINESS:

- It has been suggested that AIS create a pin to give to Life Members. it was also suggested that the official AIS pin be reinstated. Following discussion, no action was taken.
- Anner Whitehead has requested an AIS credit card to make her job expenditures easier and more efficient. The receipts will be sent to Marley who will follow the usual payment process. It was also noted that a credit card would be useful to the Pocklings. J. Plank moved that Whitehead and Pocklington each be given a credit card to use for AIS business; J. Jones seconded. Carried.
- Regarding write-in votes on the Judges' Ballot, Epperson moved that there be no write-in votes; Probst seconded. Carried. This change will be reflected in the next *Judges' Handbook* revision.
- Mahan initiated discussion of adjusting advertising rates to encourage and support suppliers. Probst moved that charge for all color ads be reduced by 30%, effective in the April *Bulletin*; Aitken seconded. Carried. Those who have already paid for April ads will be notified of the change and reimbursed accordingly.
- Jay Hudson reported that a species iris garden was being established at the Botanical Garden in Mendocino, California. This garden will contain plants from a number of well known irisarians who specialize in the study of species iris, and will be tended by interns from various parts of the world. Hudson requested that AIS make a yearly donation of \$500 to this project. During discussion, several members noted that this might establish a precedent that could create controversy among existing and/or future projects of a similar nature. It was felt that on-going support would not be advisable. Epperson moved that AIS give \$500 to the Mendocino Coast Botanical Gardens on a one-time basis; Plank seconded. Carried. Aitken, Nichols and Probst abstained.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

First Vice-President Aitken assumed the chair during election of the President. Epperson nominated Mahan; Niswonger seconded. Epperson moved that nominations cease and that the Secretary be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for Mahan; Niswonger seconded. Carried. Mahan resumed the chair.

Plank nominated T. Aitken for First Vice-President; Pope seconded. Epperson moved that nominations cease and that the Secretary be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for Aitken; Niswonger seconded. Carried.

Marley nominated J. Plank for Second Vice-President; Aitken seconded. Epperson moved that nominations cease and that the Secretary be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for Plank; Aitken seconded. Carried.

Plank nominated S. Marley for Secretary; Aitken seconded. Epperson moved that nominations cease and that the Secretary be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for Marley; Niswonger seconded. Carried.

Plank nominated J. Hudson for Treasurer; Pope seconded. Epperson moved that nominations cease and that the Secretary be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for Hudson; Niswonger seconded. Carried.

Niswonger nominated T. Aitken for Editor; Gossett seconded. Epperson moved that nominations cease and that the Secretary be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for Aitken; Niswonger seconded. Carried.

Appointment of Administrative Officers: President Mahan requested approval of the following appointments:

Registrar: Keith Keppel

Membership Secretary: Anner Whitehead

Recording Secretary: Anne Lowe

Publication Sales Directors: Irv and Nancy Pocklington

Niswonger moved approval; B. Figge seconded. Carried.

Standing Committee appointments: Mahan requested approval of the following Committee Chairmen:

Affiliates: Shirley Pope

Awards: Farron Campbell

Calendar: Olive Rice-Waters

Convention Liaison: Paul Gossett

Electronic Services: John I. Jones

Exhibitions: Roy Epperson

Foundation Liaison: Roger Mazur

Historian: Larry Harder

Historical Chronicles: Anner Whitehead

Honorary Awards: Dave Niswonger

Insurance: Michelle Snyder

Judges Handbook: Roy Epperson

Judges: Ron Mullin

Library: Keith McNames

Membership Contest: Lynda Miller

Policy: Mike Lowe

Public Relations: Kathy Guest

Rare Iris Study Center: Jim Waddick

Registrations: Keith Keppel

Robins: Libby Cross

RVP Counselor: Barbara Figge

Scientific: Dr. Chandler Fulton

Scholarship: Dr. John Taylor

Section Liaison: Riley Probst

Secretary of Donations: Jeanne Plank

Silent Auction: Carryl Meyer

Slides: Bill Mull

Symposium: Gerry Snyder

Youth: Jean Morris

B. Figge moved approval of Standing Committee Chairmen; Niswonger seconded. Carried.

The proposed budget was reviewed in detail and estimated revenues and expenses were discussed line by line. It was voted by consensus to approve the budget with changes as made during the review. Treasurer Hudson will send the completed budget to all Board members.

Mahan stated that the local group had more than met every need and a vote of thanks was extended to Co-Chairs Henry and Opal Wulf, President Gary White and members of the Lincoln Iris Society for their gracious hosting of this Board meeting. Additional thanks went to the members of Region 21 who provided the refreshments during breaks.

Pope referred to the distributed flyer for the Median Odyssey sponsored by the Iris Society of Massachusetts in Natick, Massachusetts on May 17-19, 2000. This will be followed by the Dwarf Trek to Maine on May 20, 2001 which will present a rare opportunity to see and evaluate MDBs.

Vince Lewonski, RVP of Region 3, issued the invitation to the York National Convention in May 2001. He stated that there was a large variety of gardens to tour and that, in addition to iris, there would be many other plants to see. All meetings and banquets will be in one Convention hotel and bus rides will be short.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:08 A.M. on November 5, 2000.

Notes taken by Carryl Meyer

Session recorded by Vince Lewonski

Minutes compiled by Anne S. Lowe, Recording Secretary

American Iris Society Foundation

Contributions to the American Iris Society Foundation are used for the research of the genus iris, administration of scholarships and the support of the AIS Library through the Evelyn Jones Memorial Library Fund. This research includes the taxonomy as well as the cause of diseases and their cures. Over the years, grants have been issued to the top researchers and educational institutions throughout the United States as well as internationally.

April 1, 2000 - October 1, 2000

Contributions in memory of:

Betty Balzer (OH)

Rolla & Alice Eich (OH)
Lucille Pleshek (OH)

Chris Bauer (MT)

Grand Valley Iris Society (MI)

Frank Brewer (KY)

Blue Grass Iris Society (KY)

David Colman (OH)

Rolla & Alice Eich (OH)

Wini Conklin (CA)

Bob Brooks (CA)

Gladys Ensminger (NE)

The Greater Omaha Iris Society (NE)
Elkhorn Valley Iris Society (NE)

Eldon Hale (WA)

Walla Walla Iris Society (WA)
Yakima Valley Iris Society (WA)
(*E. Jones Memorial Library Fund*)

Duane Hays (KS)

Garden City Area Iris Club (KS)

Janet K. Merrill (NH)

The Maine Iris Society

John Minke (KY)

The Blue Grass Iris Society (KY)

Marlene Newburn (NE)

The Greater Omaha Iris Society (NE)

Donald Nutter (PA)

Charles & Elizabeth Conklin Jr. (PA)
The Delaware Valley Iris Society
Region #3, AIS

Mercedes Olsen (WA)

The Walla Walla Iris Society (WA)

Robert "Bob" Schreiner (OR)

Dorothy C. Howard (OK)
Elsie Mae Nicholson (CA)

Wilbert G. "Gus" Sindt (MN)

Walter & Audrey Machulak (WI)
Bob Brooks (CA)

Mary Southwort (MT)

The Big Sky Iris Club (MT)

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The Delaware Valley Iris Society

Charles & Elizabeth Conklin Jr. (PA)

Robert Walsh (KY)

The Blue Grass Iris Society (KY)

American Iris Society to the Ackerman Youth Essay Contest

How can you make a contribution or memorial gift to the American Iris Society Foundation?

Checks should be made payable to the American Iris Society Foundation. When sending a memorial gift, please include the name and address of the next-of-kin, so an acknowledgement card may be sent. Your tax-deductible donations should be sent to:

The American Iris Society Foundation

Roger P. Mazur Sec./Treas.

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Omaha, NE 68104-4159

AIS Storefront

Sale Items & Publications

\$27.00 *The World of Irises*

Highly recommended! 32 pages of full color. Edited by Warburton and Hamblen, 34 contributors and authors including international authorities. Published in 1978 and most authoritative book on all phases of irises. Scientific and popular. 6" x 9" hard bound cloth cover, 526 pages.

Quantity discounts: 10% off for 10 or more
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**\$1.50 ea., or
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Basic Iris Culture. Booklets. Great information
for new iris growers. Ideal for clubs or shows.

\$4.50 *AIS Bulletins: Back Issues* (not all issues available)

\$14.00 ea. *Check Lists:* 1939, 1949, 1959, 1969, & 1979
Reprint. Soft cover.

\$17.00 *Check List, 1989*

Hard cover. Ten-year compilation of registrations 1980 - 1989.

**\$7.00 ea. *Registrations and Introductions:*
1996.**

Registrations and Introductions:

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Years 1984, 1985, 1990 - 1995, 1997 - 1999.

\$2.50 *Bronze 50th Anniversary Medals*

The AIS 50th Anniversary medal in antiqued bronze. Suitable for pendants, show prizes, and special awards.

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2001 Iris Calendar: See inside front cover.

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By William Shear

176 pages, 163 color photos.

In this book William Sear, a 40-year veteran of iris growing, shares his expertise in choosing, planting, growing and propagating exquisite irises of many types. Cultural advice for the most desirable and adaptable iris types allows the gardener to choose the irises best suited to his region of the country.

Single copy: \$17.00, postpaid

Affiliates & Sections, 10 or more copies: \$14.00 each, postpaid

Rent Slide Sets from the American Iris Society

AIS Slide Sets available for 2001:

Reliable Iris of 2000: Popular irises of 2000.

Reliable Iris of the 1990s: Popular irises of the 1990s.

Reliable Iris of the 1980s: Popular irises of the 1980s.

Reliable Iris of the 1970s: Popular irises of the 1970s.

Beautiful, but Little Known Irises: set I, II, or III.

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Irises other than TBs: Medians and others.

Reblooming Irises: as recorded in zone 7.

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Iris Trivia: 4 sets, with slides and questions that can be used for fun and informative meetings. (Use of all questions and slides takes about an hour.)

Iris Gardens, a Selection: set I or II.

Convention sets: York, PA; Denver, CO; or Dallas, TX.

To Order: Requests for slides should be made well in advance, preferably 6 – 8 weeks. Please request alternate choices. Clearly *print* name, address, phone number, and date of meeting, if requesting by regular mail. Slide chairman prefers you order by email. Only one set per request date. Slide are to be returned day after viewing by *Priority Mail*. Note: Affiliates are entitled to one free set per year. Send check for \$10.00, payable to AIS, to:

Bill Mull

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7112 Fox's Lair Ct

Fax: (757) 855-5529

Norfolk, VA 23518-4435

Email: <AISSlides@aol.com>

Section Slides Available:

The various Sections of AIS also have slide sets available for rent. These feature irises of each respective group. Rental fee is \$5.00 per set, unless noted otherwise. Requests for these slide sets should be submitted as follows:

Arils and Arilbreds: Order from Scott Jordan, 3500 Avenida Charada NW, Albuquerque, NM 87107. Rental fee \$7.50. Check to Aril Society International.

Dwarf: Dorothy Willott, 26231 Shaker Blvd., Beachwood, OH 44122-7111. Check to Dwarf Iris Society. Rental fee \$7.50.

Historic Iris Preservation Society (HIPS): Contact Joan Cooper, 212 West Country Rd. C, St. Paul, MN 55113. Rental fee \$7.50. Check to HIPS.

Japanese: Order from John Coble, 9823 E. Michigan Ave., Galesburg, MI 49053. Check to Japanese Iris Society.

Louisiana: Order from Ann Justice, 202 Briargate Cr, Lafayette LA 70503. Check to Society for Louisiana Irises. Rental fee is \$10.00.

Medians: Contact Terry Aitken, 608 NW 119th St, Vancouver WA 98685. \$10 check to MIS.

Pacific Coast Native: Contact Damon Hill, 4613 Maddock Rd, Sebastopol, CA 95472-9768. Rental fee \$7.50 to SPCNI. 3 sets available: Species, Hybrids or combo.

Rebloomers: Contact Olive Rice-Waters, 1914 Napa Ave, Berkley, CA 94707. Check to Reblooming Iris Society. Rental fee is \$7.50.

Siberians: Order from Robert Hollingworth, 124 Sherwood Rd E, Williamston, MI 48895. Check to Society for Siberian Irises.

Species: Several sets available. Order from Helga Andrews, 11 Maple Ave, Sudbury MA 01776. Check to SIGNA.

Spurias: To order, contact Patricia Brooks, 102 Jefferson Lane, Ladson, SC 29456. Check to Spuria Iris Society.

AIS Bulletin Ad Rates

"Without advertising, a terrible thing happens... nothing!"

We are now using an all-electronic setup with our new printer. As a result, we can no longer simply paste ads on paper. All ads submitted on paper will be scanned. If you have graphic images or logos as part of your ad, it would be best if you send them on a disk, or email them directly to Scott Aitken at <scott@scottpix.com> (payment must still be made through advertising editor).

Shopping Section

found in the back of each *Bulletin*. Placement is roughly alphabetical.

\$42.00	15/16 inch	Rate is for 4 issues.
\$58.00	1 15/16 inch	All ads are 2 1/8 inch wide.
\$73.00	2 15/16 inch	

Display Advertising (Rate is for single issue)

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\$58.00	1/3 page	2 1/2 x 4 3/8 (wide), or 7 1/2 x 1 1/2 (tall)
\$81.00	1/2 page	3 3/4 x 4 3/8 (wide), or 7 1/2 x 2 1/8 (tall)
\$104.00	2/3 page	5 x 4 3/8
\$115.00	3/4 page	5 5/8 x 4 3/8
\$138.00	Full page	7 1/2 x 4 3/8

Color:

\$115.00	1/2 page, interior page.
\$193.00	Full page, interior page.
\$175.00	Full page, interior page, 4 consecutive issue discount.
\$280.00	Full page, inside back cover.
\$297.00	Full page, inside front cover.
\$350.00	Full page, outside back cover.

Terms

Payment is due with ad copy. Ads due: September 1 (October issue), December 1 (January issue), March 1 (April issue), June 1 (July issue). Send ad and payment (payable to AIS) to:

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Bulletin of the AIS

Shopping Section

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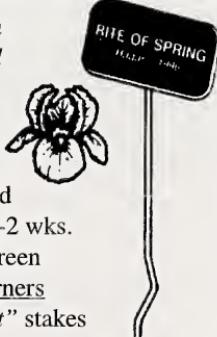
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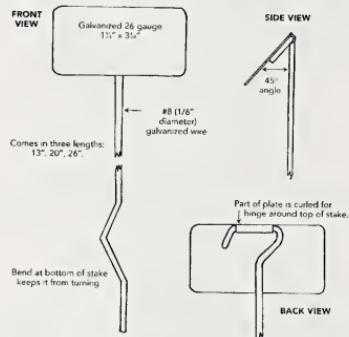
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Photo #2



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Photo #4



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THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY IS A NONPROFIT INSTITUTION INCORPORATED FEBRUARY 2, 1927, IN the County of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania. By the terms of the Charter, the Corporation has no stockholders and exists for the sole purpose of promoting the culture and improvement of the *Iris*.

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Section Membership Rates:

	single annual	single triennial	dual annual	dual triennial
Median Iris Society (Overseas members add \$5 per year for postage)	\$5.50	15.00	6.50	17.50
Society for Siberian Iris	5.00	13.00	6.00	15.00
Spuria Iris Society	6.00	15.00	8.00	18.00
Society for Japanese Iris	3.50	9.00	4.00	10.50
Reblooming Iris Society	7.00	18.00	8.00	21.00
Society for PCNs	6.00	15.00	8.00	18.00
Species Iris Group	5.00	12.00	6.00	15.00
Dwarf Iris Society	4.50	12.00	6.75	18.00
Historic Iris Preservation Society	5.00	12.00	6.00	15.00
Aril Society International	10.00	28.00	13.50	33.50
Society for Louisiana Irises	7.50	18.00	9.00	22.50

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President's Message

by Clarence Mahan, Virginia

NE OF THE PURPOSES OF THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY IS to promote science as a means of enhancing our knowledge of the genus *Iris*. You might be surprised, as I was, to learn that gardeners and plant hybridizers were a significant source of information for Charles Darwin when he was formulating the theory of natural selection.

Darwin, in *The Autobiography of Charles Darwin*, related how he conducted his research: "I worked on true Baconian principles, and without any theory collected facts on a wholesale scale, more especially with respect to domesticated productions, by printed enquiries, by conversation with skilful breeders and gardeners.... I soon perceived that selection was the keystone of man's success in making useful races of animals and plants."

Eight articles were published in December in the journals *Nature* and *Science* that signal a prodigious advance in plant science. The articles are the culmination of a five-year international effort by scientists to identify and place in order the millions of letters of the genetic code of a weed, *Arabidopsis thaliana*, which is commonly called thale cress.

Washington Post staff writer Rick Weiss explained the significance of this research on this lowly weed in the mustard family in these words: "The new work paints the clearest portrait yet of flowering plants, a unique class of life that arose a mere 200 million years ago and quickly came to dominate most of Earth's ecosystems. It sheds light on how plants diversified and adapted, and in particular how they overcame the special problems that come with being rooted to a single spot, unable to flee or hide. And it reveals that plants have an astonishing array of biological 'senses'—more perhaps, than people have—through which they experience and respond to the world around them."

With flowering plant genome sequencing, we are on the verge of a giant leap forward toward greater knowledge and understanding of plants, including irises—perhaps the greatest advance since Darwin published *On The Origin of Species* one hundred and forty-two years ago.

If you would like to make a donation or give a memorial contribution for scientific research on irises, such contributions will be reserved for that purpose in a restricted fund. AIS is a 501(c)(3) organization, which means that all donations are tax deductible.

Bob Plank, Region 15, has provided AIS with *pro bono* legal services for a number of years—and Bob's advice and work have been outstanding. Bob's efforts, with assistance from Roy Epperson, recently resulted in the IRS granting 501(c)(3) status to Regions 2, 6, 9, 11, 13, 15, 24 and SJI. This means that donations of money, irises for regional sales, or other contributions to these organizations are tax deductible. The IRS approval for these organizations opens the door for other regions, sections and affiliates to apply for similar treatment. If your region, section or affiliate is interested in obtaining 501(c)(3) status, contact Bob Plank for information and assistance. His email address is PlankMail@aol.com.

I wish to extend a word of appreciation to everyone who contributed to the January issue of our *Bulletin*—all 144 pages. Special thanks go to Terry, Barbara and Scott Aitken; Bruce Filardi, our new Assistant Editor; Harold Peters, our Advertising Editor; and Glenn Corlew and Bob Plank for their photographs.

The various articles on reblooming irises in the January *Bulletin* held a special interest for me. My interest in remontant irises has been keen ever since I received my first catalogue from Melrose Gardens many years ago. A word of caution, however, is in order. It is a caution that the late Ben Hager used to express often and forcibly. (And those who knew Ben know that he could express himself quite forcibly from time to time.)

Some of our newer members or non-members reading the *Bulletin* may not know that rebloom in irises is climate related. Some of the irises mentioned in the articles may not rebloom in your area, and some may rebloom only rarely. To avoid disappointment, get advice from your local iris society about which reblooming irises are likely to perform best in your garden.

The AIS Board voted at the fall meeting to raise annual dues by \$2.00 effective October 1, 2001. There will be no increase in triennial or life dues at this time. It is important that our dues keep up with inflation so that we never again have to have a large increase as we did in the mid-nineties. We need no more financial crises.

We have much improved our financial status over the past five years. This was possible by the past dues increase; cutting costs in

every possible way; donations from many people, including a number of our officers and committee chairmen who have not billed AIS for all their expenses; by instituting the silent auction at conventions; and by Jean Erickson, Terry Aitken, Marilyn Harlow, and Keith Keppel relinquishing compensation.

Even though we are financially healthy at present, that rosy picture can change rapidly. *Bulletin* and postage costs increase every year. We have reauthorized compensation for the Membership Secretary; before too long, we will probably have to authorize compensation for a new Editor. We should continue our current policy of building financial assets while searching for ways to expand services to our members.

One goal we need to keep working on is expanding membership. Lynda Miller continues doing yeoman's work in managing the AIS Membership Contest. Affiliate presidents can aid AIS by getting their group involved in the contest. This is the best way to show Lynda that you appreciate the many hours of service she gives to AIS each year. How about doing something nice for your local flower or gardening society? Give them a group membership in AIS.

A few lines from Wordsworth seem appropriate as spring arrives and we embark on this new age of plant science:

Sweet is the lore which Nature brings...

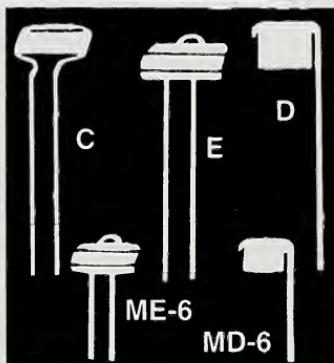
One impulse from a vernal wood

May teach you more of man,

Of moral evil and of good,

Than all the sages can.

“The Tables Turned” 1798



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2001 INTRODUCTIONS

SEASON'S DREAM (Kegerise, 2000) Sdlg. 18-92, TB, 35" E-L. Ruffled, lightly laced white. Beards white, yellow in throat. Well branched with 7-8 long lasting flowers. Great garden value as well as show stalk. Fast increaser. Tranquil Moments x America's Cup. \$35.00

ANNUITY (Kegerise, 2000) Sdlg. 62-84, TB, 38" M. A lovely light pink, nicely ruffled and lightly laced with lighter area on falls. Coral red beards tipped white. 7 large flowers on well-branched show stalks. Good grower. 171-77: (12-75: (Portrait of Amy x Country Manor) x Kindness) X 19-81: 95-76-1: Portrait of Amy x Kindness) x Playgirl). \$35.00

PINKSATION (Kegerise, 2001) Sdlg. 23-91, TB, 38" M. Ruffled, lightly laced pink. Falls lighter with a slightly white area in center. Beards deep pink, white at end. 7-8 buds on a candelabrum branched show stalk. Good grower. 41-84: (84-76-2: (Portrait of Amy x Pink Ballet x 20-81: (Playgirl x (Portrait of Amy x Kindness))) X 22-88 (Love Boat x Annabelle Babson). \$35.00

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Editor's Message

Murphy & the Greyhound Bus

by Terry Aitken, Washington State



HAVE OFTEN SAID "I COULD WRITE A BOOK ABOUT MURPHY AND the *Bulletin*!" Many years from now I'll be able to laugh about it, but at the time...!

Once upon at time, there was a January 2001 *Bulletin*. It was "in production" and, as always, we were under great stress to get it out of graphic layout (son Scott in Seattle), down to Portland, color proof it and go to press. The whole system involves split second teamwork, timing, and recovering from frequent glitches.

One of our brilliant ideas would allow Scott to work on into the night to complete the *Bulletin* layout, then run it down to the Seattle Greyhound bus depot for a Friday midnight ride (Paul Revere style), four hours to Portland. There, at dawn, the editor could snatch the parcel from the passing bus (Pony Express style) and head for the nearest computer where the Portland editorial staff could pick it over for last minute "press enhancements". We would then be able to deliver the final CD to the publisher at dawn on Monday, where pallet loads of paper were already stockpiled in the pressroom. A wonderful game plan! But then there was MURPHY.

That Friday night in early January, the valuable cargo (a computer disk of the *Bulletin*, a hard copy and all original color photos, slides, and ads) rumbled off into the mist shrouded darkness of a Puget Sound night, on its mission of mercy for the AIS. Where Murphy took that bus for the next ten days, we will never know! (I would speculate that with rotating drivers that bus could have gone to Mexico City and back in that time!) As the Saturday morning sun fought a losing battle with the heavy overcast skies of Portland/Vancouver, the editor stood empty-handed and open-mouthed in front of the Bus Depot. No *Bulletin*! The troops had been mobilized and the hungry presses were idling in eager anticipation of the great paper feed. Our Portland computer technician could not reschedule for several days. The editorial staff shifted to other

assignments. The presses shifted to other projects. We were dead in the water as the phone lines ran hot between bus depots north and south in search of our phantom cargo.

Ultimately we decided to press forward and do our best with what we had. Scott prepared a new CD and hard copy on the following Monday when the phantom cargo did not appear—sending it this time by overnight delivery. We were handicapped at this point by the lack of original photos and slides. We could not do fine tuning on the color work, a phase that usually takes from two to eight hours to complete. We had to press forward. The result was several color ads in the January Bulletin that were “off color”. These are being rerun in April to more accurately show true colors of the plants being offered. Our apologies to Shirley Pope and Chandler Fulton for GOSSAMER BREEZE which should have been much bluer; to Mid-America Garden where Opal Brown’s FANCY STUFF should have been pale blue; to Don and Ginny Spoon for photos generally darker than they needed to be; and to Keith Keppel for images generally redder than they should have been. We will make amends as well as we can, and we hope it won’t happen again.

I can't wait to see what Murphy has up his/her sleeve for April! Keeps us young in spirit! ☺

Corrections to January 2001 Bulletin:

Page 27: In Larry Lauer's article on rebloomers, the first two crosses he listed were inadvertently combined. His first important rebloom cross should have been shown as:

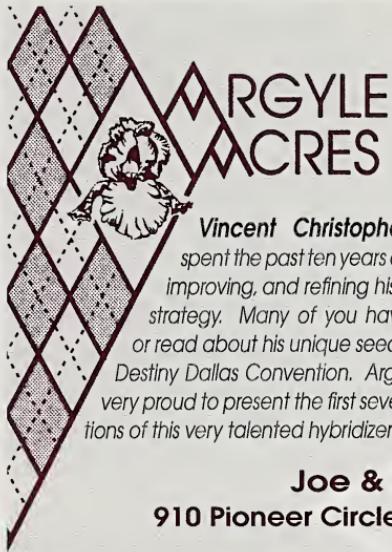
RECURRING DELIGHT: ((EDITH WOLFORD x BREAKERS) X MOTHER EARTH).

The second cross was:

RECURRENT EVENT & BABY BELLE: (CHUBBY CHEEKS X BOUNTIFUL HARVEST).

Pages 70 & 71: In Bruce Filardi's article on 2001 introductions, boldface type was omitted on the “White, White plus”, and “Lavender, Violet, Purple” section headings, causing some confusion.

Irises for 2001



Vincent Christopherson has spent the past ten years developing, improving, and refining his hybridizing strategy. Many of you have admired or read about his unique seedlings at the Destiny Dallas Convention. Argyle Acres is very proud to present the first seven introductions of this very talented hybridizer.

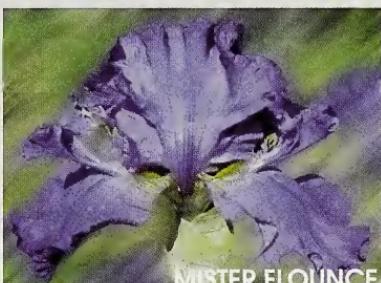
Joe & Donna Spears
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photo by Larry Harder



HEARTBEAT AWAY

Sdlg R3-231CH. Pink Swan X Triple Whammy..... \$40



MISTER FLOUNCE
Sdlg I-69A. Skyhooks X (Skyhooks x Momentum)..... \$40



SHINE ON THRU

Sdlg L5-125A. Step Beyond X Spirit World \$40

BEYOND THE BLUE TB 42" M This beautiful blue iris has darker petal centers of purple. Blue beards tipped orange. Big ruffled flowers on tall sturdy stalks. Good grower. Fertile both ways. Sdlg R3-138A. Honky Tonk Blues X Orchid Lane \$40

FANCY FRIENDS TB 32" M Standards peach pink. White ground falls with orchid wash and dotted edges. This luminata plicata has white beards tipped gold. Ruffled form. Ten buds on stiff, well-branched purple stalks. Dark purple based foliage, purple bracts and sets purple seed pods. Fertile both ways. Sdlg LP5-100A. Gypsy Skirts X Spirit World \$40

SADDLE UP TB 36" E-M Dark lavender standards with ruffled, flared buff peach falls, lighter at petal centers. Orange beards add contrast to this distinctively different flower. Fertile both ways. Sdlg R4-41A. Nancy Glazier X Huia Dancer.... \$40

TURN THE TIDE TB 34" M Reverse blue bitone has light blue standards with darker mid-ribs. Near white falls accented by golden yellow beards. Ruffled and flared. Reliable grower and bloomer. Fertile both ways. Sdlg R3-160A. Navy Waves X Sea Quest..... \$40

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See more photos and additional information at www.argyleacres.com.

SPECIALIZING IN HISTORIC AND MODERN TEXAS HARDY IRISES

Youth Views

Youth Coloring Contest

by Jean Morris, Missouri

THE 2000 COLORING CONTEST WAS A BIG SUCCESS WITH A record 40 entries from eleven different regions. The Coloring Contest picture, entitled, "Historic Irises," was drawn by three students from Marquette High School in Chesterfield, MO. Youths from Regions 2, 3, 7, 9, 12, 14, 15, 18, 21, 22 and 24 participated. Age divisions were established for judging purposes.

In the age 6 and under category 1st place went to Ashlee Wilson, Reg. 12; 2nd place to Jazlyn Wolford, Reg. 15; and 3rd place to Devon Wilson, Reg. 12. Creativity Awards went to Nash Houskeeper, Reg. 12; Chelsea Thompson, Reg. 22; and Christopher Raymond, Reg. 18.

In the age 7 - 9 category, 1st place went to Taylor Reina, Reg. 15; 2nd place to Chelsea Smith, Reg. 15; and 3rd place to Jessica Wolford, Reg. 15. Creativity Awards were won by Erika Wilson, Reg. 12 and Evelina Padilla, Reg. 15. Honorable Mention went to Samantha Salazar, Reg. 15; Ashley Rigney, Reg. 15; Erin Rosales, Reg. 15; Katie Grove, Reg. 15; Leah Emmerson, Reg. 24; Alex Mohr, Reg. 2; and Sara Provost, Reg. 3.

Youths age 10 - 12 entered very outstanding coloring with Rachel Hindle (pictured below) of Reg. 18 winning 1st place plus Best Overall Award. Congratulations, Rachel! The coloring of Victoria Adkins, Reg. 7, was given a 2nd place, and that of Jennifer Plank, Reg. 3, took 3rd place. Creativity Awards went to Joshua Winzer, Reg. 18; Alexa Cahalan, Reg. 18; and Kira Archibald, Reg. 14. Honorable Mention went to Monique Torres, Reg. 15; Michelle Ross, Reg. 15; Vanessa Montes, Reg. 15; Clair Jewell, Reg. 3; Jessica Clark, Reg. 18; and Bryan Wilson, Reg. 12.



Rachel Hindle

In the age 13 - 15 category, 1st place went to Kali Niswonger, Reg. 18; 2nd place to Lyle Newman, Reg. 18; and 3rd place to Sarah Rooks, Reg. 7. Creativity Awards were won by Jennifer Schmidt, Reg. 18, and Matt Brooks, Reg. 18. Honorable Mention went to Nicole Winkelmann, Reg. 9; Nick Yowell, Reg. 18; Joyce Fields, Reg. 18; and Matt Knipshild, Reg. 18.



Jean Morris, Youth Chair

and prizes of AIS youth t-shirts were awarded.

Prizes of cash plus Siberian and Louisiana irises were awarded to the 40 regular entrants. Thanks to all who entered the contest. The coloring was excellent.

Goals & Ideas, Problems & Solutions

The Youth Committee recently did some goal setting. For planning purposes, a survey consisting of eight questions was sent out to the Regional Youth Chairs (RYCs) and to Youth Advisors (YAs) in the affiliate clubs.

[Editor's Note: Jean Morris has compiled a report which lists the survey questions, along with a cross section of representative responses. Any reader who would like a copy of this report may receive one by contacting Bruce Filardi, either by e-mail or US mail. This information will be of interest to all who work with youth members.]

The AIS Youth Committee wishes to thank all RYCs and YAs who answered the survey. Goals at the national level include the following: Having an RYC in every region, naming a YA for every affiliate club, signing up with AIS every youth who participates in any way in the local club, starting a regional youth award in every region with ten or more youth members, RYCs providing written youth reports at all regional meetings, setting aside space for youth news and photos in each issue of regional bulletins, maintaining a positive attitude aimed at adding enjoyable youth activities, increasing youth membership and securing more adults to assist youths with their iris endeavors. If *you* are willing to serve on the Youth Committee in any capacity, please contact us via the AIS Youth Chairman. ☺

There was only one entry in the age 16 - 18 category. Pamela Kratzer of Reg. 21 was awarded 1st place by the judges.

Some late Coloring Contest entries were received from newly formed Classroom Iris Project students. Entries were also received from the Reg. 3 Fall Festival participants. In addition to entering the Coloring Contest, these youths were given free iris rhizomes which they planted in pots to take home. This event was held to recruit new AIS youth members. Coloring Contest entries in these two unofficial categories were judged

PRESENTING FOR 2001

from Rick Tasco

COSMIC VISION TB, 32", EM. Sdlg # 93-53-08. Buffy pink standards, faintly flushed and dotted light magenta; creamy pink falls heavily striated and dotted magenta, becoming more solid at the edge; rusty tangerine beard on white base; sweet fragrance; up to 8 buds. 91-35: (Secret Melody x Faux Pas) X sib..... \$40.00

PERFECT TOUCH TB, 38", ML. Sdlg # 95-TB-08. Heavily ruffled satiny dark violet self; large flower with impeccable form; pronounced Easter lily fragrance; up to 7 buds. Sudden Impact X Larry Gaultier..... \$40.00

ROYAL STORM TB, 35", M. Sdlg # 95-TB-09-12. Very light violet, almost white standards; dark royal purple falls, lower half slightly darker; white spray pattern around tangerine beards tipped white; lightly ruffled; sweet fragrance; up to 8 buds. Tempting Fate X Voodoo Blues..... \$40.00

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS SDB, 14", M. Sdlg # 96-SDB-26-04. Cream standards, faint greenish-bronze midrib; cream falls heavily washed reddish-bronze so that the background color barely shows through except as a thin wire rim; large bushy blue violet B, small cream spear at end of beard; strong baby powder fragrance; 3 buds. 94-13: (91-64: (Tender Tears x Bisbee) X Tantara) X 92-08-17: (Triplicate x Joy Boy)..... \$15.00

from Roger Duncan

HOLLYWOOD NIGHTS TB, 32", M. Sdlg # 3-W-26-3. Heavily ruffled and laced intense deep purple black, blacker sheen inside ruffles on falls; small white spray pattern near beards; blue violet beards, burnt orange in throat; sweet fragrance; up to 8 buds; pod fertile and had pollen for the first time last year. The darkest flower we've ever seen with this much lace! Dusky Challenger X 1-M-37-24 (Spin-Off x Street Walker)..... \$50.00

from Ben Johnson (Springfield MO)

HEARTSTRING STRUMMER TB, 40", ML. Sdlg # A49-A. Domed and ruffled white standards are lightly rimmed in very pale violet blue; very broad and nicely flared falls are near white around beards modulating to a medium dark violet blue on the ruffled edges; orange yellow beards ending pale violet blue; usually 9 buds; although not a space-ager may breed them with its' Conjunction background; we're very proud to have the honor of introducing Ben's very first iris. EC 1997. Rapture In Blue X Conjunction..... \$40.00

from Ed Roberts (Frankfort KY)

DETROIT CITY TB, 34", L. Sdlg # 9-5-DC. Ruffled very clean white space-ager, very light cool blue rim on falls; white beards with fuzzy white horns. From a cross of two Dykes Medal winners. 3-4 branches plus spur; up to 10 buds; originally registered as Mid-season, but really should be listed as Late. Honky Tonk Blues X Conjunction..... \$40.00

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IRIS GARDENS



ROYAL STORM



Photo: Bill Marrott

HOLLYWOOD NIGHTS



Photo: Ed Roberts

DETROIT CITY



PRIVATE FIRST CLASS



PERFECT TOUCH



HEARTSTRING STRUMMER



COSMIC VISION

International News

by George & Margaret Sutton, California
and Bruce Filardi, Oregon

From the British Iris Society 2000 Iris Year Book:

Following is a list of the British Iris Society awards for 2000:

The Foster Memorial Plaque is a personal award given to recognize an individual's achievements in the advancement of the genus Iris, and was instituted in 1926 in recognition of the work of Sir Michael Foster. The award this year goes to Mr. O. D. Niswonger, better known to all as Dave. Dave began iris breeding soon after joining the American Iris society in the 1950s. His first introductions of irises were made in the 1960s and continue to the present. A major contribution has been in working toward the pink and orange amoena pattern. His cultivars have been given many awards of the American Iris Society, including the top awards in each of the classes in which he is active. Dave has also been a breeder and introducer of dahlias, daffodils, daylilies, and gladioli.

The Pilkington Award is given in recognition of outstanding service to the BIS. There could hardly be a more deserving recipient of this award than Clive Russell. It all started back in the late 1970s when he attended his first Chelsea Show. In 1990 he offered his services as Treasurer to the BIS, a post he held for seven years from 1991-1997. Subsequent to this he (took) on the position of Membership Secretary, a post he still holds. In 1992 Clive and Jack Grint formed "The Iris Garden" as a means of introducing modern TBs to the horticultural buying public. In 1995 Clive qualified as a BIS show judge and three years later was appointed a Royal Horticultural Society representative on the Joint Iris Committee. He manages to grow *I. ensata* cultivars and spurias, perhaps two of the most difficult to grow in the British climate. Clive is a member of the American Iris Society, Spuria Iris Society, and more recently the Society for Japanese Iris.

The (British) Dykes Medal: For the second year running, a Siberian iris has been judged the best in the BIS garden trials. **PERFECT VISION** was raised by Cy Bartlett from **HARPSWELL HAPPINESS X BERLIN RUFFLES** (the 1999 Dykes winner). The Iris Fund for Prevention of Blindness had approached the BIS earlier that year, seeking a new iris to be used in their logo and sold to raise money for the charity. They chose the name and Cy was happy to cooperate.

The Fothergill Trophy for the best TB of the year has been awarded to Bryan Dodsworth's **ORANGE ORDER**. Parents are Alec Howe's **ORANGE DAWN**, an exceptionally well branched pale orange, and John Weiler's **FRESNO CALYPSO**, the leading orange of its day.

The Cook Cup has been generously donated to the Society by Freda Cook with the request that it is awarded annually for the best remontant iris. This year the award went to Dr. Currier McEwen for his Siberian iris EXUBERANT ENCORE ('85). It has a long season and regularly remonts.

The Bob Nichol Trophy: Mrs. Jean Nichol has donated a beautiful watercolor painting of AMADORA and TRENWITH in memory of Bob Nichol, to be awarded annually for outstanding service to the Society for the year. It was first awarded last year to Fred Webbing for his work on the BIS iris garden at the Royal National Rose Society garden. This year's award is made to Berney and Alice Baughen for their unstinting contribution to the BIS exhibit at the Chelsea Flower Show.

From Facets, the newsletter of the Kent Group of the British Iris Society:

Weed Control among PCI's and TB's, by Derek Carver. One of the great varieties of weeds our garden specializes in is that known as Enchanter's Nightshade (*Circaeae lutetiana*). It is a mat former and in a clump is not really all that unattractive. But its charms were definitely lost on me when it invaded my bed of PCIs. A professional gardener told me that SBK, whilst effective against a range of broad-leaved weeds, leaves grasses totally untouched. PCIs have a grass-like foliage. I applied the SBK in the prescribed dosage as a fine spray. The weed started to look very sick in record time, but as the weeks passed the PCIs were still absolutely fine. I had a second go. This time I totally killed off the weed and here we are a good 9-10 weeks later and the PCIs are as good as ever. I wondered about TBs. One of my TBs came in for the same treatment. Within 10 days the weeds were shrivelled skeletons and the iris was fine. After a few weeks the iris started to look less than healthy. Now, two months on it does not look happy in any way. From its appearance, SBK certainly doesn't seem to be the answer to TB weed infestation that we are all seeking.

From the Canadian Iris Society Newsletter:

The Walker Ross Service Award is awarded annually to a member whose efforts have contributed to the long-term success of the Canadian Iris Society and to the promotion and advancement of the genus iris. The Award was presented at the September 2000 AGM to Gloria McMillen.

Siberian Convention 2003: Things are proceeding in the planning of this convention. As of the end of September 2000 we have received 221 guest iris for planting in the convention guest iris display gardens. To date the guest gardens are RBG (Royal Botanical Gardens), main display, McMillen's Iris Garden, and Chuck Chapman's Iris Garden.

From a letter from Pam Hilton, South Australia:

I have always been interested in irises. I am however "into" Dutch Iris. I am having great difficulty in naming them. From one nursery alone I

have been sold three white varieties using the same photograph. This is very frustrating when I am trying to collect and breed. I was hoping you could help me. Do you or your members know of a pictorial book that I could buy in America? I can buy the book here if I know the name of the book, writer and publisher. [Editor's note: if anyone can help Pam, contact the Suttons for her address.]

Also from Australia:

From Down Under comes news of this year's award recipients. The Australian Dykes Medal will be awarded to LAVENDER PARK (Grosvenor '98/'99), a beautiful lavender TB. Runners-up were the creamy pink Louisiana GOING SOUTH (Taylor '93/'94) and the ruffled white TB BREAK THE ICE (Grosvenor '95/'96). The I.S.A. Medal for Best Beardless iris went to the rose and magenta LA ROMAN WARRIOR (Taylor '97/'98). Winners in the Sydney Louisiana Iris Spectacular were Gold Medal to purple REAL TREASURE (Taylor '93/'94); Silver Medal to pink DANCING AGAIN (Taylor '96/'97); and Bronze Medal to rose POTPOURRI ROSE (Pryor '97/'98).

From the New Zealand Iris Society Anniversary Issue, September, 2000:

[Editor's note: In this issue we print notes from some of the Iris Groups of the North Island; we will continue with more North Island Groups and those of the South Island in further issues. We start with the northernmost group and work our way south.]

Mid North: The fabulous beaches, stunning coastal scenery, and rolling countryside of the sub-tropical north sets the scene for the diversity that is New Zealand. Heavily logged in the past, there is now a surprising amount of regenerating forest...assisted by the conversion of many farms to lifestyle blocks, particularly on the coast. The climate is hot, dry and humid in summer, and mild, usually wet, in winter with a great deal of wind, especially on the coast. Soils consist mostly of a sprinkling of topsoil over a hard clay pan. Some Waipu properties have very porous loam and there are pockets of rocky volcanic soil around Whangarei. Although one member has a sub-tropical garden, the Mid North area generally is south of the true sub-tropical zone. Bearded iris tend to be difficult to flower although the species including *Iris pallida* are easier and there are some long-established clumps. Louisianas flower and flourish almost aggressively. Water-loving irises generally do well as do the larger evansias, Dutch, and *I. unguicularis*, which flowers very early. Oncocyclus and Regelia irises are impossible without extraordinary measures, and Junos, reticulatas, and the miniature evansias require dedication and determination. The spuria *I. orientalis* has formed wild colonies in paddocks and on roadsides. There is a large clump of *I. albicans* on coastal limestone near Waipu Cove.

Albany: The Albany Group was formed in 1993. Because of [the wide geographical area covered], the gardening conditions vary greatly, with some areas experiencing heavy frost at times, some no frosts at all. Soils vary from free-draining volcanic to heavy clay. Gardens range from windswept hillsides to bush and woodland conditions. Winters are usually fairly mild, sometimes very wet, with unpredictable spring weather, and usually hot, dry summers lasting into autumn. The Louisianas, siberians, and evansias do best in these conditions, along with the Pacific Coast irises and laevigatas. Members struggle with the bearded irises, with some of the older varieties being the most reliable.

Auckland: Fourteen years ago a small band of iris lovers gathered together to form the Auckland Group. In 1991 the Group established a "public garden" at Western Springs which has now become a feature of the complex and a pleasant outlook for diners at one of Auckland's most popular family restaurants. Support for the garden project has been remarkable. Donations of irises have come from commercial growers and other groups. Due to the high humidity, relatively mild temperatures and above-average rainfall, not all iris species do well in the region. Members focus on those that provide the best display for both the public garden and home gardens.

Waikato: The Waikato Group was formed when the NZ Iris Society was first affiliated to the Australian Society. No subscription is paid to the local group; money is raised from sales tables and raffles. The funds from the raffles are always used to subsidize travel to the annual convention. Funds from the sales table are generally spent by the group on travel, that is bus trips to other groups and an annual mystery bus trip and also on iris goods such as seeds or rhizomes. The Waikato area is bordered on the east by Mount Te Aroha and the Kaimai ranges, and on the west is Mount Pirongia and the west coast beaches of Kawhia and Raglan. Between is rolling dairy country with a good loam soil and an annual rainfall of around 70-80 inches per year. Tall bearded irises have been the starting point for most of the group. They grow and flower well most years but are very prone to leaf spot and soft rot which is inherent because of high humidity November through to February. Water loving species enjoy the Waikato rainfall, and Japanese, Louisiana, and Siberian iris do very well, as do spuria species once they are established. The Waikato Group has regularly imported Pacific Coast iris seed from America but has had varying success. *Iris pseudacorus* is now growing on the banks of the Waikato River near Huntly and being dispersed downriver by nature. This would be the only known colony of wild iris in the Waikato.

Hawkes Bay: In most parts of New Zealand early settlers brought and planted irises, as the large wild colonies of spurias, foetidissima, and pseudacorus remind us each bloom season. In the Hawkes Bay area, hot dry summers and mild winters suited these so well they became garden escapees and in some instances have assumed the proportions of noxious

weeds, impossible to eradicate. In the late 1940s and early 1950s as the Iris Societies in Australia and New Zealand were formed, bearded irises began to appear in gardens. Members found that the iris season was extended considerably by the addition of these 'others' and so the interest was heightened. There were large plantings of tall bearded irises and newer hybrid spurias, Louisianas, and siberians and the first tetraploid varieties made an entrance. In the 1980s, the group developed 'Know Your Irises', a small booklet used to train all members interested in judging and assessing irises. It is now due for another revision as members are more concerned with garden assessment than Show Bench judging. Hilmary Catton's interest in iris species and the lack of any cultural notes on growing these in local conditions led to the publication by the Society of her booklet, 'Iris Culture in New Zealand'. ☙



KEITH KEPPEL

P. O. BOX 18154 SALEM, OR 97305

INTRODUCTIONS FOR 2001

Tall Bearded

BROAD SHOULDERS M 38"	Standards buff cream on pale lavender, wide falls plush port, henna brown beards. #95-68H.	\$45.00
FIERY TEMPER M 36"	Wine red bitone with velvety blackish wine falls. Prominent red beards. #95-68L.	\$40.00
FOREIGN LEGION ML 39"	Golden sand to chamois standards, dusky blackish cyclamen falls, smoky bright orange beards. #95-69A.	\$40.00
JERSEY BOUNCE EM 38"	Heavily ruffled cream white to cream, set off by bright red beards. Delicious scent. #93-111 B.	\$40.00
QUANDARY E 38"	White standards, falls cream with lemon outpouring, lower central portion sanded light violet. Flame beards. #95-97H.	\$40.00
RIO ML 38"	Apricot yellow standards, rosy mauve falls with paler edge and center, solid burnt orange-red beards. A carnival of color. #96-50B.	\$40.00
STORM TRACK M 34"	Dark blackish purple standards and $\frac{3}{8}$ " band on white falls; beards dark blue. Low bud count but high visibility. #92-36A.	\$40.00
TEAMWORK M 36"	Pale lavender blue standards, huckleberry purple falls with rusty ginger beards. #93-72H.	\$40.00

Intermediates

BALLYCASTLE E 24"	Clear light pink, lavender cast. #91-41A.	\$15.00
BRAT M 26"	Brassy yellow, violet maroon fall wash. #93-1 D.	\$20.00
CITIZENS BAND E 25"	Blue, white and purple plicata. #94-47C.	\$20.00

...and a Tall Bearded from Australia

MASTERY (Barry Blyth) L 36"	Butterscotch standards, red brown falls with $\frac{3}{4}$ " wide tan beige band. Unusual pattern. #E120-1.	\$45.00
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Add \$5.00 for shipping and handling. Priority Mail delivery July/August.

See pages 64-65, January *Bulletin* for pictures, parentages...
or send \$2.00 (refundable with order) for catalogue

Request for Bearded Guest Iris

Virginia, May, 2003

The Chesapeake & Potomac (C & P) Iris Society in Region 4 will host the Convention of the American Iris Society in the year 2003. Hybridizers are invited to send guest rhizomes of recent introductions and seedlings of **BEARDED** irises under consideration for introduction.

Please observe the following guidelines when you send guest irises:

1. Up to four rhizomes of each variety will be accepted.
2. The guest irises will be accepted from July 1 through August 31, 2003.
3. All official guest bearded irises must be shipped to:

Harry Reed
646 Lower Valley Road
Strasburg, Virginia 22657
540-635-5074

4. The name of the variety or seedling number should be clearly marked on each rhizome. In addition, the following information should accompany each plant on a separate packing list:

- a) Hybridizer's name and address
- b) Name or seedling number or variety
- c) Type of iris (SDB, IB, TB, etc.)
- d) Height, color, and bloom season (E, M, L)
- e) Year of introduction (if introduced)

5. If a guest seedling is named, it will be the responsibility of the hybridizer to notify the Guest Iris Chairman no later than December 1, 2002.

6. A receipt will be mailed to all contributors. Shortly before the convention, contributors will be asked for instructions regarding the distribution of the plants. Failure to reply by June 15, 2003, will be interpreted as permission to destroy all stock. All official guest plants which are to be returned will be shipped postpaid, except to foreign addresses.

7. The Convention Committee and the owners of the tour gardens will follow the Code of Ethics as printed in the AIS Convention Handbook.

The Guest Iris Committee will not be responsible for losses beyond its control, and only irises received through the Guest Iris Chairman will be listed in the convention booklet.

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email: hmwalk@ici.net webpage: <http://home-ici.net/~hmwalk>

APPLE PIPPIN (Godfrey, W&A) SDB 12" E-M

\$15

Softly domed white standards with green mid-ribs, beautifully rounded white falls with a faint blue haze, green tints, and white beards orange in the throat, plus tiny serrations around both standards and falls. Excellent increase habit and fertile both ways.

HEY THERE X TOOTH FAIRY

CRAFTED (Dunderman, M L/Varner W T) MTB 20" E-M

\$20

A classy pink plicata miniature tail bearded, selected by Mary Louise Dunderman and Terry Varner as her next introduction had she lived, from her long line of diploid pinks and pink plicatas. Excellent increase habit. The name is apt reflecting Mary Louise's careful selection of parents to produce this work of art.

CC-450 pals pink: (AA-229 orchid pink: (Y-894 rose x Y-798 rose) x AA-353 pink: (Y-665 pink tinged white x W-1 85 dark pink plic)) X ROSEMARY'S DREAM

HEART'S RADIANCE (Sobek, R) MT8 24" M

\$20

A well shaped miniature tall bearded with plenty of blossoms of amethyst violet and yellow with beards of golden orange. Bob's Irises are noted for their great increase habit and this one is no exception, coming from two vigorous parents. On a sunny day, when the sun catches them just right, the blossoms explode with radiance.

AACHEN ELF X CAROLYN ROSE

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Request for Guest Beardless Irises

California, April, 2004

Region 14 of The American Iris Society will host The American Iris Society Convention in the year 2004. Hybridizers are invited to send guest rhizomes of recent introductions and seedlings of BEARDLESS irises under consideration for introduction. Please observe the following guidelines when you send guest irises:

1. Up to six rhizomes of each variety will be accepted.
2. The guest irises will be accepted from September 1 through October 15, 2001.
3. All official guest beardless irises must be shipped to:
George Sutton
16592 Road 208
Porterville, CA 93257
559-784-9011
email: <suttons@lightspeed.net>
4. The name of the variety or seedling number should be clearly marked on each rhizome. In addition, the following information should accompany each plant on a separate packing list:
 - a) Hybridizer's name and address
 - b) Name or seedling number of the variety
 - c) Type of iris (Sib, Spu, LA, etc.)
 - d) Height, color and bloom season (E, M, L)
 - e) Year of introduction (if introduced)
5. If a guest seedling is named, it will be the responsibility of the hybridizer to notify the Guest Iris Chairman no later than Dec. 1, 2003.
6. A receipt will be mailed to all contributors. Shortly before the convention, contributors will be asked for instructions regarding the distribution of the plants. Failure to reply by June 15, 2004, will be interpreted as permission to destroy all seedlings and distribute named varieties, one to garden owner, and the rest to the Region's summer auction. All official guest plants which are to be returned will be shipped postpaid, except to foreign addresses.
7. The Convention Committee and the owners of the tour gardens will follow the Code of Ethics as printed in the *AIS Convention Handbook*.
8. The Guest Iris Committee will not be responsible for losses beyond its control, and only irises received through the Guest Iris Chairman will be listed in the convention booklet.

20 Iris In 2000

by Bruce Filardi, Oregon

9

KNOW THAT I CAN LOOK FORWARD TO OUTSTANDING DISPLAY every year from some of the tried-and-true irises in my garden, such as JESSE'S SONG (Williamson '83), GOOD SHOW (Hager '88), GYPSY ROMANCE (Schreiner '94), LIGHTNING BUG (Durrance '87). But each year also brings surprises, newer plants which are knockouts and which earn a permanent place in my iris beds. Last year, some of these were new intros, and some were just new discoveries. My 20 surprises in 2000 include three intros from 1999 and three from 1994. I'll give a brief recap, in hopes that others will be encouraged to give some of these a try:

CHEVALIER DE MALTE (Cayeux '98). Perhaps the single most eyecatching iris in the garden this year, with light salmon standards, rosy purple falls with cream center, and one of the brightest orange/red beards that I've ever seen. Good bud count and substance.

CHOOSE A JUICE (Burseen '94). Wow! A bright light orange with purplish plic markings on the falls—just a touch at the hafts in cool early weather, more of a dotted purple wash as the season warms up. Nothing else like it!

CONFEDERATE ROYALTY (Moores '97). I'm not sure why I liked this one so much, because its appearance was very different from what I expected from the written description. However, it won me over through sheer stamina and performance—a long-lasting display, lots of flowers with good substance, and a distinctive color combination that caught my eye several times during the season and made me go over to it for closer inspection. Greyish standards over blue-violet splashed plicata falls.

EYES RIGHT (Burseen '97). Across the garden, this iris looks more RED than any other I've ever seen. Good grower, good color, distinctive. Hybridizers take note!

GLADYS MY LOVE (Ensminger '98). A personal favorite; mid-size flowers in a pink amoena with tangerine beards. Good branching and overall performance.

HEAVEN (Ghio '98). I have to admit that I only ordered this one because I felt it had important hybridizing potential. However, I was "converted" as soon as I saw its first bloom! A truly beautiful flower with outstanding form and substance—lasting for days. Not just another white, the bright coral beards and shoulders make it distinctive and eyecatching. An immediate addition to my list of all-time favorites.

INSTANT SMILES (Burseen '98). Another unique iris from Tom Burseen, a burnished golden bronze. The color glows across the garden. I'm moving some rhizomes this year to make a "Burseen tricolor display" of CHOOSE A JUICE, EYES RIGHT, and INSTANT SMILES!

LAVA MOONSCAPE (Meininger '98). Every visitor to my garden this year asked: "What's that one?!" LAVA MOONSCAPE put on a full color display from early season to late—medium-sized flowers in a mauve-pink amoena with a knockout maraschino red space-age beard. A second-year clump put up at least eight bloomstalks.

LOVELY DAWN (Keppel '98). This is not one of those flowers that calls across the garden; this is one of those irises which, as the saying goes, "rewards closer inspection." A very beautiful, medium-sized flower of great substance and balance; each bloom stays fresh for several days, even through extremes of heat or rain. Light pink standards over cream falls with wide orchid border.

PRINCESSE CAROLINE DE MONACO (Cayeux '98). A beautiful sky blue, a very pure blue unlike anything else except SKY AND SUN (see below). Topped off by a brilliant orange beard, PRINCESSE CAROLINE DE MONACO is a show-stopper.

PUCCINI (Ghio '99). Nothing else like it in commerce, although further intros may be forthcoming from this breeding line. PUCCINI has white standards over white falls with a unique purple line pattern surrounding orange beards. Hard to describe—you've got to see it for yourself. Excellent increase.

RIBANDS (Grosvenor '93/'94). The 1998 Dykes Medal Winner in Australia, but virtually unknown here in the US. Beautifully formed peach blossoms, great growth and garden display.

RIPPLING RIVER (Schreiner '95). Ruffled, with incredible substance, this was the first time that I had seen this dark blue self—and it lived up to all the hype.

SEA POWER (Keppel '99). I had not expected to like this mid-blue flower so much; I ordered it because I knew that Keith Keppel was very proud of it, and I always feel that his opinions are worth listening to. When SEA POWER bloomed for me this year, I suddenly knew an example of perfection in form. I had been afraid that it would be too ruffled for my taste, but for some reason its perfect balance successfully carries the abundant ruffling. Having SEA POWER as a model, I'm better able to judge my own first attempts at hybridizing—a very humbling experience!!

SKY AND SUN (Spoon '99). An unusually pure sky blue, complemented by a glowing golden beard, SKY AND SUN grabs you with its color and personality. Described in the Winterberry Gardens catalogue as "Blend of turquoise and true sky blue, making other blues compared to it appear lavender."

SLAPSTICK (D. Meek '98). This one probably got almost as much attention as LAVA MOONSCAPE from garden visitors. Beautiful peach-pink washed rosy violet, 13–14 buds, long season.

SPLASHACATA (Tasco '98). Lavender standards over an unusual "splash" pattern of bright purple on white falls. A first year rhizome put up four full stalks loaded with flowers—and still left plenty of increase for next year. This is one you see from a distance.

SUGAR MAGNOLIA (Schreiner '98). When SUGAR MAGNOLIA was introduced in 1998, the Schreiner's catalogue warned of somewhat low bud count. Well, the way this one grows, you won't notice the bud count, because the number of stalks easily makes up for it! A second-year clump had nine stalks, covered with beautiful bright pink amoena blooms (registered as white standards, venetian pink falls) and tangerine beards. A distinctive plant, and a garden display for those who are looking for a standout performer. Starts among the earliest and continues through late mid-season.

TEMPTONE (Grosvenor '93/'94). The 1996 DM Winner in Australia, this is a beautifully ruffled deep purple self. Lots of flowers on strong stalks. Too bad that TEMPTONE isn't better known here in the United States.

VENETIAN LOVE (Terada '99). Another distinctive iris; creamy white standards over similar falls with a burgundy red line pattern. Bud

count seemed low this year, but the flower's distinctiveness made it a favorite.

Addendum - Rebloom Report:

The standout rebloom performer in my garden last year was MARIPOSA AUTUMN (Tasco '99), a bright rosy violet plicata with five rebloom stalks on a first-year clump (from one initial rhizome planted the preceding summer). Also noteworthy were two ever-reliable performers from Bill Maryott, the bright gold self PURE AS GOLD ('93) and the rose plicata RETURNING ROSE ('98), as well as Don Spoon's appropriately-named STRAWBERRY APRICOT ('99). Repeat shows were put on throughout the season by IB's MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM (Baumunk '99) and CHAMPAGNE ENCORE (Aitken '97). ☺

Convention in Australia

The Inland Regional Iris Society will host the Australian Iris Convention 2001 at Yarrawonga/Mulwala, North East Victoria, Australia. Convention dates are October 24th through October 29th, 2001, which is peak bloom season in Australia. Yarrawonga and Mulwala are situated on the Murray River which divides the states of Victoria and New South Wales.

There will be a welcome barbecue October 24th, followed by five days of garden tours, including wineries, Botanical Gardens, Ned Kelly Museum; with a farewell dinner October 29th. Registration must be received no later than June 30th. So if you have been looking for a good excuse to visit Australia, this is your opportunity. For further information and registration information, contact either of the following people:

Brian Flanigan

R.M.B. 4346

Yarrawonga, 3730, Australia

Phone 61 3 5873 5377

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What Goes On

at an AIS Convention

by Walter Moores, Mississippi

SOMEBODY ASKED ABOUT WHAT GOES ON AT AN AIS Convention. Here is a partial quote from the late Bill Bledsoe, an AIS president back in the 1970s. This comes from the July 1962 issue of the Bulletin of the AIS after the Bledsoes had attended their first convention.

"So you've never been to an AIS national convention? Neither had I until this year, but I know now that we have been the losers for having missed previous ones. If you weren't in Kansas City, you postponed by another year the thrill of an iris-looking lifetime! The bloom was at peak and the weather was warm.

The convention pleasantly surprised me in two ways. First, the heavy drinking, the all-night poker games, and the noisy carousing, which are accepted as a part of an ordinary convention, were conspicuous by their absence. Come to think of it, after you've walked over iris gardens all day you're too tired to make much whoopee that night, even if you are so inclined. Second, the business meetings were informal and informative, without sacrifice to efficiency. The reports were laced with bits of humor that made them actually interesting instead of a boring recital of statistics. I was especially interested to learn that our Society is on a sound financial basis...

If this convention was typical (and I'm told that it was), you need never have any fear that you will be without congenial friends when you do attend. There are no strangers on a garden tour! If you're timid or reserved, you'll soon find yourself forgetting it and having the time of your life as you discuss new introductions while looking at them proudly growing in a garden, or as you chuckle over the comical wisecracks or antics on the bus that brought you, along with many others, to the garden. If you're an extrovert and meet new people easily, you'll need a large notebook to hold the names and address of your new-found friends. In either case, you'll want to remember those names and addresses because you'll be swapping irises with many of them and are

likely to end up with valuable additions to your display gardens. An AIS convention reflects democracy at its best. Physicians, college professors, cattlemen, registered nurses, housewives, retired (and active) business tycoons, teachers, farmers, accountants—people from every walk of life meet in a common interest, and on an equal level..."

Mr. Bledsoe continues with a day by day account of the gardens he and Mary Lou visited as well as the sectional meetings they attended.

He closes:

"After the banquet, it was as if the band had struck up 'Auld Lang Syne.' Old friends and new ones rushed to say one last word of good-bye to each other. The air was filled with shouts of, 'See you in Denver next year!'"

This was written thirty-nine years ago but still applies today. It's hard to top this story, yet I think things have gotten even better. So, if you have an opportunity to go to an iris convention, by all means, go! ☺

200 PINE CREEK
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94598



INTRODUCTIONS
by
Virginia Messick

MESSICK IRIS GARDEN

MATHILDE (V. Messick, 2001) TB 36" M92-82, Silverado X Winterscape x (Navy Strut x Bubbling Over). SHE is named for the famous asteroid which came close to earth in July '97, the same year Mathilde was registered with AIS. HER greatest asset is lovely form in the Silverado tradition with enhanced ruffled standards and tighter, fluted falls. A uniquely different shade of blue tinged mauve, darker than Silverado with darker blue beards. Excellent substance. \$35.00

WINE SPRITZER (V. Messick, 2001) SDB 9" M91-29 (Sherlock x Inflamed) X Clay's Caper. A multi colored SDB with ruffled, lavender rose standards. Nice round flaring falls with a wine spot and a wide rim of rose, finished off with blue beard. Blooms and increases very freely. \$12.50

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Sterling Innerst

2001 INTRODUCTIONS

ARE YOU LONESOME, TB, sdlg 3657-1, 36", M-L. (Before the Storm X Evelyn's Echo) Won several Best Seedlings awards at local shows. Olive-gray-green self with mustard green beards. Seven to eleven buds on greatly branched stalks. Very different and is fertile both ways. Vigor plus. \$40.00

INNIRISHOW, TB, sdlg # 4602-1, 36", M. (Instructor X Light show) Deep yellow-gold standards, orange beards, with falls dotted just about solid brilliant red except for a 1/4" yellow-gold rim. Seven to nine buds on well branched stalks. Very vigorous. \$40.00

APPARENT SECRET, TB, 36". sdlg # 4995-1, M-L. (Boogie Woogie X Helen Leader) Yellow (mid) standards, falls fancy patterned several shades of purple with 1/4" yellow rim. Eleven buds with super branching. Vigor galore. Fertile both ways. Very BRIGHT. \$40.00

KALI JULIA, TB, 36" Sdlg. #4747-3, M-L. (All Heart X White Heat) Named to honor Tim and Nicole Jerrard's first born. Tim and Nicole purchased my old property at Oakland Road. They are plant people and are growing many irises. Excellently formed, lacey white self with the showiest-highest red beards seen in some time. Great branching, bud count, and vigor. Fertile both ways. \$40.00

OVER AND OVER, TB , sdlg. Re 4622-1. 36", Mid to still blooming 11-11-00. (Suky X Matrix) Blooms in early May and starts rebloom in June with a large flush of bloom late August early September and goes on blooming until frost. White trimmed lavender with 7 to 11 buds, Blooms over and over! Fertile. \$40.00

DELIGHTFUL KID, BB, 26", Sdlg # 4607-1, M-L. (3643-2: Sterling Mistress x Pink Froth) X ((3632-7: ((3361-2: Point Made x 2375-10) x (2375-10 x Queen in Calico))) 2375-10 = (Colortart X Capricious). Standards are mid pink. Falls are white trimmed grape-red. Beards are pink-red. 6 buds on near perfect stalks. Fertile. \$25.00

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Ensata X Siberian Iris Cross:

Chromosome Count

by Sam Norris, Kentucky

RECEIVED A LETTER FROM BRUCE FILARDI DURING THE LATTER part of October, 2000, in which he asked me to write a short article for the American Iris Society. It seems at the last meeting of their local iris group, a member showed him some photos of chromosomes that I had taken of Christy Ann Hensler's *ensata* X Siberian cross, and he thought this would be an interesting subject for a short article.

Mrs. Hensler had contacted me about making a chromosome count of her *ensata* X Siberian crosses, which I agreed to try. In spite of the lack of formal training for making microscope slides, I have been using the process that John Holden gave me back in the late seventies with a variety of different iris. Most of my experience has been with the onococylus and their hybrids and the hexagonae and their hybrids. These have been both diploid and tetraploid. In addition a number of other iris species have been worked with as the opportunity arose.

One thing that I have found over a period of time is that the different species have their own requirements when the slides are being made. Collecting the root tips while many cells are undergoing mitosis is very important, as the more cells that are found at this stage, the better the chance of making slides that are good enough for chromosome counts.

After a few initial problems, counts from Mrs. Hensler's plants were made, three having the 26 chromosomes that would be expected from a true cross of *ensata* X Siberian, while one had only 24 chromosomes. Three of these plants bloomed for me this past spring, one *ensata* type bloom and two Siberian types.

Since seeing these blooms I have been hitting the books, trying to get an idea of how the hybrid plants could have blooms like these. Usually, wide crosses will have a blending inheritance and the blooms will show characteristics of both parents. To my uneducated eye there has been no sign of a blend, although Lee Walker has been able to detect it to some extent. Could this lack of blending be an indication that the parent iris are closer kin than anyone has thought?

Most of us have at least a working knowledge of Mendelian genetics, but what isn't so generally known is how many characteristics do not follow Mendel's rules. Some characteristics of the garden peas, which Mendel used for running his test, have since been reported to vary from the expected ratios. Were these deliberately overlooked by Mendel as possibly having been caused by contamination? Or were the peas he used slightly different in their make-up so this didn't show up in his test? I expect that many of the characteristics of the iris would give a skewed ratio if they were kept track of.

Mrs. Hensler had some other plants from the same crosses that she asked me to examine. By all rights these should have been easier to work with after having experience with the first lot of plants. It hasn't turned out that way. Lee Walker told me that there was a much better chance of obtaining good slides from roots after they have started into new growth in the spring. I certainly hope he is right, because so far I have obtained none that are even good enough to use for an estimate, much less an accurate count; I'll make further efforts in the spring..

In case any readers would like to find out more about non-Mendelian genetics, here is a list of various ones that are common enough that they have been given names: 1. agamospermy; 2. androgenesis; 3. apomixis; 4. block inheritance; 5. coupling; 6. diplospory; 7. gynogenesis; 8. lethals; 9. parthenogenesis; 10. poikilodynamic hybrids; 11. Renner complex; 12. repulsion. Several of these could show up in any one hybrid, and probably do.

One thing not mentioned before is the vigor of Mrs. Hensler's plants. These are planted along with my tetraploid Louisiana iris, and while I thought the Louisianas were vigorous, they can't compare with these. Three of these are showing extra vigorous growth, while one seems to be making no more than normal growth. While I haven't checked to make sure, the one making the normal growth is probably the 24 chromosome one.

The only cross I attempted with Mrs. Hensler's plants failed to set seed. Numerous open pollinated seed were formed, however, and these will be germinated this winter to use for chromosome counts. I expect these counts to be identical to that of the parent plants. If all goes well this next spring, I will make an attempt to duplicate some of Mrs. Hensler's crosses.

Contamination of the cross, mixing of the seed, how could either of these produce plants having the 26 chromosomes? Of course, there's the possibility of an additional mistake: an error in the chromosome count,

which I admit could happen. I wouldn't bet my life on the results, but I will bet money and lay good odds! The possibility of a mistake is the only reason I would like someone else to make a count.

Over a period of time there have been several AIS members who had the training to make the slides and count the chromosomes, but most have passed on. Dr. L.F. Randolph and Katherine Heinig were two who had the training to make the counts, and most everyone was familiar with their names. E. Freeman Yendall, John Holden, and Howard Shockey were three who were self-taught, as well as myself. Dr. Kevin Vaughn has the training but has so many other things to do that he doesn't want to take on something that can be this time-consuming. Rodney Barton made a start at counting chromosomes of Mrs. Hensler's iris, but ran into some problems -- probably similar to the problems that I am now experiencing, but he had an idea his equipment was at fault.

From the looks of things, it is going to take more than a chromosome count by a backyard gardener to settle this. Even though this wasn't the idea behind the request for an article, I will take advantage of it to ask if any of our members will make additional chromosome counts to either confirm or refute my work. ☺

HAROLD L. STAHLY

8343 MANCHESTER DR. GRAND BLANC MI 48439

AS YOU WERE (Stahly '01) TB Space Ager, M, 37" Medium pink self, tangerine beards with 1" flounces at tip produced consistently and uniformly. The bloom is of wide semi-flared form and is quite heavily ruffled, with light lace. Stalks are well branched with 8 buds or more. THORNBERRY X TWICE THRILLING. \$40.00

BACK ROADS (Stahly '01) TB, M, 35" Standards are light blue (RHS 92C), slightly deeper at the base. Falls are a medium deep violet (89C, lightening to 90C at the edges). Beards are deep brown (200B), each hair deep blue at the base. Light blue styles with deeper midrib. Form is wide, ruffled, and semi-flared. This neglecta stands out because of the deep and mysterious beards. ON THE ROAD X TOUCH OF BRONZE. \$35.00

BALTIC ELEGY (Stahly '01) TB, ML, 35" Medium to deep red standards, a little lighter at the base; pale yellow falls washed the color of the standards blending to solid deep red edges; bronze beards. Color pattern is that of the pollen parent done in deep red over yellow. The pod parent is a plicata seedling, and the cross produced conventional plicatas, plicata-amoenas, and this washed pattern. Plants appear to have resistance to leaf spot and iris borer. The flower has excellent ruffled form and comes 7 or 8 to the stalk. The healthy foliage stands out. (GIGOLO X HAVERSHAM) X BALTIC STAR. \$35.00

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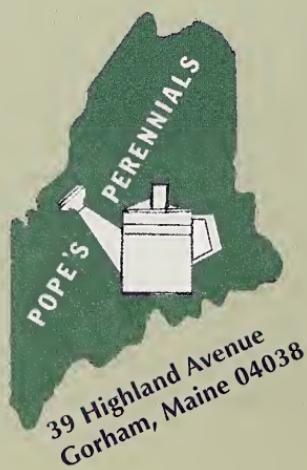
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Siberian/Japanese Crosses

See Page 42

All photos this page: Hensler



F1 Hybrid
(COMMON DENOMINATOR X INTAGLIO)



F2 Hybrid Siberian Type



F2 Hybrid (ITAGLIO X SEA SHADOWS)

Ensata X Siberian Iris Cross: *Background*

by Christy Hensler, Washington State



RUCE FILARDI SUGGESTED THAT I ADD SOME background information on the seedlings Sam Norris mentions in his article on chromosome counts. I agree with Sam that we certainly have something interesting here and welcome additional help in trying to figure out exactly what it is we're dealing with.

The plants in question came from crosses made in 1992. A group of five plants had been given to me a few years earlier by a local hobby gardener who believed them all to be Siberians. Since I was new to raising irises except for one *I. cristata* and a small collection of bearded irises, I had no reason to question her.

I had been growing the plants in an area with poor soil which seldom received water. One of the plants died without ever blooming. Two of them settled in quickly and had bloomed to reveal the typical blue and white 28 chromosome Siberians seen in most garden catalogs. The remaining two were struggling. When the first finally opened a bloom, it was obvious these were different from the others. The form was more graceful and exotic with its large yellow signals. It also looked like it wouldn't live much past the season.

I couldn't remember seeing anything like them and was desperate not to lose them. I figured I had the best chance of coming up with something exotic *and* strong if I were to use the exotic types as the pod parents and the tough-as-nails blue and white Siberians as the pollen parents. The idea that different but similar irises might cross didn't seem at all unusual. A much different species iris cross done the same year had produced some seeds and for a few years I'd been crossing violas and pansies, as well as other perennials, and getting some interesting hybrids.

I used as much pollen from both of the blue and white Siberians as possible on each of the others. At the time, I was concerned that the cross might not work only because the exotic plants were so weak. I had opened the blooms myself, the first because I was impatient to see what it

looked like after so many years, and the rest in order to make the crosses as quickly as possible. Falls were broken off immediately after pollinating.

Both plants cooperated and three pods resulted, each partly filled with good looking seeds. I planted about half of these the following spring and got 31 nice little seedlings. I had also begun to wonder exactly what kind of plants the pod parents were since I couldn't find any other Siberians which resembled them.

A visitor to the nursery suggested they might be JI and a number of phone calls and letters later the consensus was that the exotic "Siberians" were actually 3-fall JIs. By this time I'd also learned that a JI-SIB cross was highly unlikely. The first plant to bloom was the tallest of the seedlings with very wide, nicely ribbed leaves. Its bloom, though larger and lighter in color, resembled the blue 28-chrom Siberian.

I had learned by now that the problems the original JIs had experienced were probably due to the poor growing conditions I'd given them. While our soil is nicely acid, it's a combination of sand and rotten granite and, even when improved with compost, water drains through it quickly leaving little chance that water lovers such as JIs won't find themselves in serious trouble. Thinking initially that they could handle the same conditions as the 28 chrom Siberians, I had usually watered them sparingly and only during summer when we had been without rain for at least a month. Only one of the plants was still alive by the time I realized my mistake.

As more of the seedlings bloomed, they fell into two distinct types. One type looked primarily Siberian and the other appeared to be JI. Both types set seed with abandon when allowed to cross with their own kind. Knowing the Siberian types came from the JI parents, I had no doubt they were hybrids, but since a number of people had suggested that the JI types might be from selfs, they needed to prove themselves before I could assume they were also hybrid. The JI type seedlings didn't seem to be affected by the sparse watering during our long dry summers, some showed multiple branches, and a number of them had proven to be able to cross with named Siberians. Unfortunately, none of these traits were considered convincing. If anything, it was suggested that the ability of the seedlings to set seed was proof that none of them were hybrids.

Most people I corresponded with suggested chromosome counts as the definitive test of whether or not any of the seedlings were hybrid, and Sam Norris generously offered to do these on a few of the seedlings. The results are mentioned in his article.

(continued on page 46)



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(continued from page 43)

The problems I've encountered since the first crosses were done have led to some productive experiments. One of these has matured into a method of stripping buds before the petals begin to loosen. I feel this method comes as close as possible to guaranteeing any seed set is the product of the planned cross so am confident the following crosses are genuine.

While almost all of the F1's will cross easily with their own kind (A X A and B X B), crosses to pure Siberians have been difficult but not impossible. Due to the difficulties of raising pure JIs, crosses to JIs have been limited. So far, the only one to produce seed has been made using ROSE QUEEN and a Siberian type seedling. Though crosses between the two types have been made, they are even more difficult than crosses to pure Siberians.

This past season brought the first of the second generation blooms and things are becoming even more interesting. The F2's from open pollinated Siberian types are giving us plants with a number of different traits. Some blooms are obviously oversized even upon unfurling and continue to enlarge for about a day after opening. Others show extremely light or white throats, JI type stems and bud sheaths, and a small number are showing solid stems on otherwise perfectly Siberian type plants. Plants are also showing up which strongly resemble *I. sibirica* or *I. sanguinea* and a few are showing wonderful piecrust ruffles on standards and falls.

Sadly, most of the JI type F2's were lost to gophers the first winter and only 2 bloomed this past season. Neither of these were memorable.

Seedlings from INTAGLIO (JI type 92JS9A) X SEA SHADOWS (SIB) are showing more inclination to cross with the Siberian type F2's than was evident in the F1's, and show a much wider range of color including white with yellow stylearms, deep purples, pastels, broken colors and bicolors. While some also show dark forest green or dark purple lines running through their signals, all of them still look JI.

Seedlings out of COMMON DENOMINATOR (JI type 92JS2A) X SUMMER SKY (SIB) have, with the exception of a very few, been small flowered and nearly sterile. These also show a wide range of colors and look JI.

I'm hoping seedlings from SEA SHADOWS (SIB) X INTAGLIO (JI type 92JS9A) or ROSE QUEEN (JI) X 92JS15B (SIB type) will show more balanced combinations of parental traits, but until they bloom there's no telling what they might look like.

More images and information on these seedlings are posted on the internet at <<http://www.povn.com/rock/iseed1.html>>. ☺

2001'Z POUNCIN' INTRO- DUCTIONS



BEARY BEARY (*Kasperek '01*) TB 35" M. **Plicata with berry - berry!** Ruffled, grape jelly standards and style arms top the semi-flaring, bright yellow shouldered, light cream falls with 3/4" huckleberry plicata veining and dotting. Burnt orange beards. Gnu Flash X 91P-8A (sdlg. 94P-22E). \$35.00

CHEETAH CHEESE (*Kathie Kasperek '01*) TB 32" M. **Saaaaay Cheeeeeese!** Orange buff standards, style arms match the background of horizontal falls with netted pattern of deep jasper red overlay, plus orange cream streaking. Bright, deep orange beards. Giraffe Kneehiz X Hippo'z Tutu (sdlg. 95B-28Z). \$40.00

CONGO BONGO (*Kasperek '01*) BB 25" M. **Foot stumpin' rhythm!** of bright, golden-yellow standards, style arms dramatically contrast with horizontal, ruffled toasted watermelon & deep tangerine-red falls with butter-cream streaking. Red-orange beards. Gnu Flash X Tanzanian Tangerine (sdlg. 94B-20A). \$30.00

GAZELLEGANT (*Kasperek '01*) TB 34" M. **O-o-o-oh so smooth!** Ruffled, clean blue-lavender self heavily streaked with silver white. Semi-flaring falls, blue-lavender style arms and light lavender beards. Gnu Flash X 92B-49Z (sdlg. 94C-23C). \$40.00

PYTHON'Z PARASOL (*Kasperek '01*) TB 36" M. **This is a love it or leave it!** Multi-colored pastel, tan background with slightly darker netted overlay with inclusions of light yellow and warm lavender, plus random red-grape highlights. Style arms in same mottled colors and light orange-tan beards. Tiger Honey X Stardust Memories (sdlg. 95B-27C). \$40.00

UNSTABLE GENE (*Kasperek '01*) TB 34" EM. **Royal streaker!** Rich, royal violet self streaked with silver-white, semi-flaring falls, violet style arms lightly laced, beards yellow-orange.

Gnu Flash X 92B-49Z (sdlg. 94B-23K). \$40.00



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by John Jones, Electronic Services

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Progress with Reblooming Medians

All photos this page: T. Aitken



BB Seedling 98M24 (PURE AS GOLD X ANGEL HEART)
August Bloom.



IB Seedling 98M14 (PURE ALLURE X FROST ECHO)
Reblooming in July & August



TB Seedling 96T18
(CHAMPAGNE ELEGANCE X ELECTRIQUE)



SDB Seedling 95M35 Reblooming in August
(WHAT AGAIN X CHERRY FLIRT)



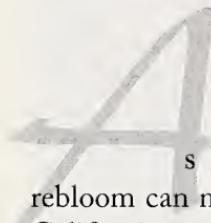
SDB Seedling 98M3-16
(JOE COOL X LUMALITE)

See Article Page 50

Reblooming Medians

A Concept

by Terry Aitken, Washington State



As I TRAVEL AROUND THE COUNTRY, I AM FINDING THAT rebloom can mean many different things in different climates. Coastal California may have rebloom almost all year long, weather permitting. Eastern Canada, near the Great Lakes, may only have three to four months of frost free bloom time available. On the southern prairies where summer temperatures can run 120°F (49°C) in the daytime and 90°F (34°C) at night, there are several months where the irises simply want to go to sleep (go dormant) until the soils cool off. My endorsement of rebloom needs to be tempered by the vast diversity of world wide micro-climates that our readers must deal with.

I am encouraged by the dramatic improvements in the *quality* of rebloomers available today, and the opportunities that they represent for further breeding. Reblooming TBs have been with us, commercially, since the 1930s. Today's rebloomers are capable of larger flowers, wider petals, more intense and cleaner colors, more diversity of colors and patterns, and extended bloom seasons. These new plants can compete on the show bench. I believe our ultimate objective should be to produce a plant that will bloom continuously while weather permits. It will be the everblooming iris. Also, the *everbloom* should be available in all types of bearded and beardless irises.

While the focus of this article is on "other than TB" rebloomers, the median classes are intrinsically tied to modern TB rebloomers as potential parents. They can be drawn into the gene pool that gives us the earlier blooming smaller medians. Today's smaller medians have evolved from the miniature species of northern Eurasia. These plants rise from winter dormancy more quickly and bloom about a month earlier than TBs. They tend to be much more cold hardy and contribute different colors and patterns than TBs. The combination of these various tall and small irises frequently tends to produce plants of *hybrid* vigor, plants that grow and bloom profusely. Now the trick is to extend the time that we can enjoy all of this wonderful color.

Bloom season can be extended by several different methods. I am delighted to report that in the 2000 season, we had bloom, of one kind or another, in our iris fields from approximately the beginning of April until the beginning of November, when the killing frosts arrived. We begin with the median classes, then TBs, then Spurias and Louisianas. The Japanese carry us through June into July. At this point the reblooming medians pick up the slack through July and are joined by the rejuvenated TBs in August. The crescendo continues with all bearded classes until freeze-up. (I will get into fall blooming Japanese irises elsewhere.)

Most hybridizers are watching for the extra vigorous plants that show up in their seedling populations. Sometimes, quite by coincidence, this vigor translates into rebloom by plants that can complete two growth cycles during the growing season. Focusing the rebloom tendency from two parent plants frequently produces more intense rebloom in following generations.

Many irises will rebloom under certain environmental conditions and not others. While some plants perform well in areas with long hot growing seasons, others perform best in cooler climates. The Rebloom Iris Society has done a great job of compiling records of which plants rebloom and in which climate zones. Calling an iris a rebloomer can be misleading. You need to know what climate zone you are in, and which irises *may* rebloom for you most years. There are no guarantees.

Our reblooming SDBs seem to be evolving out of Bennett Jones' orange lines. I was glad to read in Don Spoon's article (January 2001) that ORANGE TIGER (B. Jones '88) was considered a rebloomer in Virginia. It seldom puts up a flower in summer in the Northwest, but our derivatives from Bennett's orange line are now showing strong rebloom in the third generation. The first was JOE COOL, a soft blue amoena with a tangerine beard. (All of its sibs were orange.) When crossed with another relative, LUMALITE, approximately one third of the seedling population was summer blooming. (See photo of 98M3.)

Another SDB line is evolving from Allan Ensminger's WHAT AGAIN ('91). It is one of our strongest summer rebloomers and has been crossed repeatedly with BE HAPPY which produces sporadic summer bloom. This resulted in GRAPE CORDIAL ('00) which puts out a strong flush of color sometime in September. A sibling has been introduced as an IB (DOUBLE YOUR FUN, '00) even though it has two SDB parents. It begins blooming in late July and continues until freeze-up. We took a slightly different tack with WHAT AGAIN by crossing it with CHERRY FLIRT. I see potential here to produce a plant with blue standards and red falls. The best, so far, is 95M35 which

(continued on page 54)



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2001 Co-Introductions with Anna and David Cadd



ITALIAN ICE \$35.00

(Cadd 2001) TB, ML, 41"

Pale yellow domed standards and style arms. Creamy yellow semi flaring Falls with deep lemon yellow shoulders. Deep lemon yellow beards gives a glowing heart to this delightfully ruffled confection. With very heavy substance and very vigorous growth it produces almost an instant clump in the garden. Pronounced sweet fragrance and show bench quality branching; 8-10 buds. #1-93-1 (America's Cup X Branching Out)

MIDNIGHT MINK \$35.00

(Cadd 2001) TB, EM & RE, 41"

This large dark beauty has all the vigor of its parents and it reblooms too. Deep velvety burgundy purple domed standards. Semi flaring Falls have a slightly lighter halo around the deep purple beards. Consistent Fall rebloom, pronounced sweet fragrance, excellent substance and branching, 10-12 buds. #134-91-2. (Titan's Glory X Tennison Ridge)



FROSTED FANTASY \$35.00

(Cadd 2001) TB, ML, 43"

Pure white standards with a tiny rim of frosted diamond dust. White semi flaring Falls with a slight greenish white wash in the center. White beards with hairs tipped yellow in the throat and small white or sometimes pale lavender horns or small spoons. Very heavy substance and vigorous growth, great branching, 10-12 buds, and a pronounced musky fragrance. #2-93-1. (America's Cup X Deity)



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(continued from page 51)

has displayed good form, a good start on a red/blue flower and some summer rebloom. (See photo.)

Moving up to the Intermediates, rebloom progress has been much quicker. Our early favorite candidates (Joe Cool x Champagne Elegance) produced the strong rebloomer CHAMPAGNE ENCORE ('97) which has bloomed for us from midsummer until the hard freezes of late autumn (November). To test the disintegrating myth that "IBs are not fertile" we have crossed Champagne Encore with both TBs and SDBs and obtained pods. With this information, more bridges to future hybridizing are opened.

Where combinations of reblooming SDB x reblooming TB are not available, crossing the best available plants with one strong rebloom parent can do the job. We are much encouraged by a large block of reblooming white IBs with show bench qualities. The parentage is PURE ALLURE (SDB with no rebloom) X FROST ECHO, which is (IMMORTALITY X (I DO x SEAWOLF)). (See photo.) Similar types of crosses could open the floodgates to good reblooming IBs.

The next step up the category ladder is Border Bearded. This group of plants is rapidly overcoming a reputation as "runt TBs that won't grow." Many BBs are, in fact, vigorous growers and I would anticipate that crossing vigorous reblooming IBs with reblooming TBs will soon produce exceptional reblooming BBs with the added cold hardiness that the smaller irises will bring to the gene pool. Following the (IB-Re X TB-Re) concept, we have obtained a respectable seedling from PURE AS GOLD X ANGEL HEART. (See photo of 98M24.)

Tall bearded irises have not been neglected in this obsession for rebloom. We attempted crosses on almost every TB variety that was blooming for us during August and September. Those that formed pods were potted up and moved into the greenhouse to ripen. Seeds were harvested in November and December and potted up with the earlier crop.

The more traditional spring attempts were to cross the best TBs with known rebloomers. Our most encouraging result so far is 96T18 (Champagne Elegance X Electrique). (See photo.). A cross of 96T18 with 95M35, each with one rebloom parent, should give us an opportunity for 50% rebloom.

So the obsession grows! The door to rebloom is open to all who choose to enter. There are plenty of opportunities for everyone and the diverse directions are infinite. We simply need to use the best building blocks available and stack them up. ☺

New Iris Introductions for 2001 from Anna and David Cadd

ITALIAN ICE: (Cadds 2001). TB. 41" (1104 cm.). ML. Standards and style arms pale yellow; Falls cream yellow, deeper on shoulders; yellow beard. Ruffled and very elegant. Pronounced sweet fragrance.

America's Cup x Branching Out. Sdlg: 1-93-1. * \$35.00

FROSTED FANTASY: (Cadds 2001). TB. 43" (109 cm.). ML. Pure white, standards edges with tiny silver border; Falls with slight greenish area in center; white beard with white horns or small spoons. Excellent branching. Musky fragrance. America's Cup x Deity. Sdlg: 2-93-1. * \$35.00

DEVIL DAVID: (Cadds 2001). TB. 38" (97 cm.). Standards light lavender to silver gray; style arms white; Falls grey white with lavender wash, tan shoulders. Violet beards, yellow in throat, with small purple horns with white hairs. Sweet fragrance. BEST SEEDLING -Spring Regional Reg. 14 -Ukiah 2000. Sdlg: 30-93-1. Color Tart x Deity. \$35.00

SWEET LINDA: (Cadds 2001). TB. . 39" (99 cm.). M. Standards soft dusky pink with orange cast, style arms peach pink; Falls apricot to peach pink with raspberry burgundy lines on upper third of falls. Orange beards. Sweet fragrance. Excellent grower. Pagan Pink x Vibrations. Sdlg. 100-93-3. \$35.00

RASPBERRY JEWELRY: (Cadds 2001). TB. 39" (99 cm.). M. Standards and style arms blended raspberry, strawberry and pink; Falls raspberry pink touched lavender, light lavender lines. Deep bright orange beard. Sweet fragrance. Very elegant. Pagan Pink x Vibrations. Sdlg: 100-93-4. \$35.00

TAKE ME AWAY: (Cadds 2001). TB. 41" (104 cm.). E. Standards pale lavender blue overlay on pinkish tan with reverse side lavender white and pale lavender blue plicata markings. Style arms are yellow to tan and lavender. Falls white ground, reddish lavender plicata markings and on reverse side reddish markings on yellow ground. Yellow beards, white on end. Pronounced musky fragrance. Foliage base, part of stalk sheaths and buds deep reddish purple. Beautiful and colorful not only when blooming, but all the year around. Splash O'Wine x Envoque. Sdlg: 122-93-2. \$35.00

AMETHYST SUNCATCHER: (Cadds 2001). TB. 41" (104 cm.). ML. Standards blended tan and lavender, style arms yellow tan; Falls deep velvety reddish purple fancy plicata pattern on white ground. Yellow beards, tipped bronze. Pronounced sweet fragrance. Very unusual. Royalist x Wild Berry. Sdlg: 86-91-9. \$35.00

WILD AZURE JEWEL: (Cadds 2001). TB. 39" (99 cm.). Standards white, style arms white with lavender midrib; Falls mostly light blue with lavender to reddish purple splashes, wash or dotting, varying from deep to very light. Broken color with every flower different Yellow orange beard. Pronounced sweet fragrance. Solana x unknown. Sdlg. 95-91-1. \$35.00

MIDNIGHT MINK: (Cadds 2001). TB. 41" (102 cm.). EM & RE. Ruffled velvety deep burgundy purple, falls lighter. Deep purple beard. Sweet fragrance. Titans Glory x Tennison Ridge. Sdlg: 134-91-2. * \$35.00

SUN BEIGE: (Cadds 2001). TB. 37" (94 cm.). E. Lightly ruffled yellow, falls with greenish to reddish brown wash. Yellow beards. Musky fragrance. Atys x Sky Hooks. Sdlg: 17-92-1. \$35.00

RHAPSODY IN PEACH: (Cadds 2001). TB. 37" (94 cm.). ML. Soft peach pink with lavender sheen on falls. Orange beard, near white at end with small fuzzy purple horn. Sweet fragrance. Very ruffled and beautiful. Sdlg: 87-92-1. \$35.00

ORANGE JOKER: (Cadds 2001). BB. 27" (69 cm.). E. Soft pinkish cantaloupe orange, falls darker. Dark orange beards. Sweet fragrance. Jolt x Role Model. Sdlg: 63-93-6. \$25.00

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Diana Shore (Fan 2001)



Fancy Fan (Fan 2001)



Sun American (Fan 2001)

Diana Shore (Fan 2001) TB, 34", M. Ruffled white self with fine green veins; beards yellow. Slight sweet fragrance. Beautiful crystalline finish, exquisite form, and makes for a knockout clump. A standout even in our floriferous gardens. (Knot's Landing X Cinnamon Girl) \$40.00

Fancy Fan (Fan 2001) TB, 34", M. Violet (RHS 88A) self. Beards orange-yellow. Heavy substance, lightly ruffled, slight sweet fragrance. Prolific grower, heavy bloomer. 3 - 4 branches, 9 buds. The picture tells it all! (Up Periscope X Tinted Crystal) \$40.00

Sun American (Fan 2001) TB, 36", M. Lightly ruffled sulphur yellow (RHS 6B) self. Beards orange self. Beards orange (25A). Beautifully flared falls show faint white centerline. Slight sweet fragrance. Unique coloring. Beautiful stalks bloom several at once for a real show of these horizontal beauties. (Acapulco Gold X West Coast) \$40.00



Sweet Mei (Fan 2000)

Sweet Mei (Fan 2000) TB, 30", ML. Dark violet-blue self, gold veards. Shoulders a rich red-purple. Unique coloring! Ruffled wide form, lightly laced, closed standards. Three branches, 6 - 7 buds. (Twilight Blaze X Honky Tonk Blues). \$30.00

Melted Butter, Kelly Lynne, Lover's Reunion, Mel's Honor, Magic Palette may be purchased at \$15.00 apiece.

Individual prices for the varieties listed below are as follows: **White China** @ \$20; **Eagle's Wing** @ \$10; **Knot's Landing** @ \$5.

Martile Rowland (Bushnell 2000) TB, 36-40", E. Sunfast lemon-yellow flaunting large red-orange beards. Beautifully ruffled, lightly laced blooms of heavy substance, perfect form, and large size. 3-4 branches on heavy stalks produce 7-9 buds. Exceptionally large root system makes for an unusually vigorous plant. A breath-taking beauty worthy to bear the great soprano's name, and a standout at the Texas convention. (Lighted Within x Christmas Time) X (Christmas Time x Flaming Victory). \$30.00

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Martile Rowland (Bushnell 2000)

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Culture Corner

Update: 2001

By Terry Aitken, Washington State

IN THE FOLLOWING, I AM USING "CHEMICAL" IN THE BROADEST sense of the word. Water, soap and compost are chemicals every bit as much as fertilizer, insecticides and fungicides.

Too much water can rot some irises; alkaline water will kill Japanese irises. Soap will kill beneficial insects as quickly as pests, and compost can pollute as easily as fertilizer. We need to understand the implication of using any and all of these "tools of the garden trade" which enhance our ability to live in harmony with our gardens. All of us, back yard gardeners and commercial growers alike, are motivated to use as little of any of these elements as we feel is necessary to get the job done. When using any chemical, always follow manufacturer's instructions. It is strongly recommended that you do a "test spray" on a small area first.

For backyard gardeners, many of the techniques usually identified as "organic" may work just fine to keep pests and diseases to a minimal nuisance. Commercial growers, shipping internationally, certify that their plants are pest free and disease free. This requires more judicious control, and is in the best interest of irisarians worldwide.

Disease Control

Leaf Spot affects bearded iris foliage when night dew or heavy humidity is present. Varies considerable with weather conditions. Not usually a problem in dry areas. The following can be effective. Use two or three of these in rotation at three week intervals: *Daconil*, *Bayleton*, *Cleary 3336F*, *Benlate*, *Zineb 75*, *Kocide 101*, *Rallye*, *Funginex*. A foliant spray of *Protek* silicone fertilizer (with a soap stickative) may assist your plants in resisting leaf spot.

Soft Rot (Bearded Irises): Smelly, soft tissue in the rhizome, usually caused by frost damage and/or acid soils, and frequently starts at the base of a bloomstalk. Can affect the entire rhizome. Scrape away damaged tissue. Drench with liquid bleach (can be diluted with water). For severe

cases, *Agri-mycin* 17 or *Agricultural-Streptomycin* can be effective. Also, see article entitled "Dial Away Rot", page 67 for alternative solution.

Crown Rot (Beardless): *Subdue*, *Cleary336F*

Botrytis (root rot): *Terraclor* (use as a soil drench).

Weed Control (Best applied during active spring growth)

1. *Roundup*. Great on grass, dandelions, chickweed. Ineffective on clover, except in stronger doses. Most effective in early spring. Watch out for "drift" on iris foliage which can be harmful if not fatal to the plant. (See October 1998 *Bulletin* article, page 9.)

2. *Crossbow*. Controls broad leaf weeds, but not grass. It is effective on clover, thistles, wild daisies, oxalis. Can be combined with Roundup to clean up all weeds in one application. Very effective, but be very cautious around iris plantings. We also add liquid soap as a stickative.

3. *Ornamec* or *Poast*. Selectively kills most types of grass. Can be sprayed on iris clumps (do a test spray first!). Very slow acting, so start early in spring, when temperatures are above 50° F.

4. *Stinger* (restricted). Kills thistles and some broad leaf weeds quickly and permanently. Does not harm grass. We have used on bearded irises without harm to the irises. But again, do a test spray first.

5. *Manage* (Monsanto). For nut sedge. Very expensive. Alternative is to brush *Roundup* concentrate directly onto the foliage of the nut sedge. Will retard it for the season, but not necessarily kill it off entirely. *Crossbow* seems to impact growth also.

Pre-Emergence Weed Control

1. *Surflan*. For bearded and beardless irises. Granular or liquid.

2. *Princep 4G* (4%, Granular) or *Simazine* (same thing). Alternate with use of *Surflan* every six months.

Warning: Do not use *Casoron*. It stunts irises! Also, rain can concentrate retardant in puddle areas.

Insect Control

1. *Orthenex* (mixed with *Funginex* for insect and disease control). Systemic.

2. *Cygon IIE* (*Dimethoate*); *Merit* (see *Spoon* article, April 2000 *Bulletin*, page 89). Systemics. Effective for about three weeks.

3. *Marathon*. Systemic.

For any of the above, add liquid detergent as a stickative. Apply at three week intervals, or as needed

4. *Soap*. Suffocates insects on contact.
5. *Naturalis-O*. A contact fungus that attacks insects. This is a sticky material that must be sprayed weekly on underside of leaves.
6. *Beneficial Insects*. Expensive and only moderately effective.
7. *Beneficial Nematodes*. Expensive and only moderately effective. (See April 1998 *Bulletin* article, page 35).
8. *Nemacur*. Control of parasitic nematodes. (See January 1997 *Bulletin* article, page 25). Restricted, but easy to use.
9. *Marigold Golden Guardian*. For control of parasitic nematodes. (See *Park Seed Catalog*, or call 800-845-3369.)

Other Cultural Features

Mulch beardless irises, but not bearded ones. Try bark chips, straw, coarse builder's sand, pine needles (any breathable material).

Remove spent bloom stalks to prevent bee cross seedlings from contaminating the flower beds. Do not cut back green foliage.

Water as needed to maintain growth in irises, except Spurias and Arils, which prefer to go dormant in the summer heat.

Another Tack on Insect Control

Eden Bioscience of Bothell, Washington, is testing a product called *Messenger*. It is a powdered protein designed to stimulate crop yield and boost its immune system to resist insects and diseases.

Silicone Fertilizer

We have been using a combination of *Benomyl*, *Protekt* silicone and liquid detergent (for stickative). For three years we have had minimal leaf spot problems. If we detect any rot, we add *Agri-Mycin 17* (about 1 teaspoon per gallon of water) to the mix. Instant cleanup!

Aspirin

(See prior article in the July 1999 *Bulletin*, pages 63-70.)

The challenge at this time is to find "uncoated" Aspirin. The coated ones do not dissolve, or at least not readily in water. Perhaps crushing it first would work—we haven't tried that. The presence of *Acetylsalicylic Acid* stimulates the plant's immune system to resist (*Erwinia*) rot, leaf spot, viruses, fungal infection and root rot. There are reports that the presence of aspirin seems to stimulate growth and vegetative increase in the iris plants. To summarize, if your iris plant has a problem, feed it an aspirin and "check it in the morning". ☺



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TB 35" M Sky full of cream ivory fluffy petals, violet plic shadow at hafts diminishing down edge of falls. Beards cream ivory with glimpse of sunset at throat. Sib of ACOMA X CHANGE OF HEART



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Chicken Feathers

Revisited

by Terry Aitken, Washington State

HAD SO MUCH FUN WITH "CHICKEN FEATHERS" THE FIRST TIME, I thought I'd do it again! (See previous article on this subject in the April 2000 *Bulletin*, page 82.) The chicken feather meal resembles brown sugar, and a 50 pound bag will cover about 500 square feet. This product is used to correct a nitrogen deficiency, usually in areas of high rainfall. It may not be useful in other areas. The chemical analysis is 12-0-0. It is a very slow release fertilizer.

My observations this past year suggest that it lasts almost a full year. Most bearded irises varieties (there are notable exceptions) respond by producing higher than normal side increases. Bloom does not seem to be affected. The plants resemble those grown in California with about an extra month of growth. This leads me to suspect that this treatment may not be particularly useful in the "sunbelt" states where the irises have a longer growing season. For our purposes in zone 8, our bearded irises, from MDBs through TBs, are coming into spring growth bristling with increase. We are now experimenting with the meal in our Siberian fields. ☺

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Problem Compost

by Bonne Scott, California

LAST SPRING A CUSTOMER CAME INTO THE GARDENS WITH A bag of very sick iris plants. The leaves were uniformly pale yellow, and many of the blooms did not display their normal color. She was very concerned that her iris had a disease and kept the bag in the car for fear of infesting our plants—a very considerate lady. I asked about water, shade, fertilizer and soil type. Then I asked if she had added anything to enrich the soil. She said that for the last three years she had been adding green waste compost. Our guess is that the compost she was using was not finished; in other words, it was still in the process of breaking down. By using this still raw product it was leaching nutrients from the soil thereby robbing her plants of those necessary products.

Our garden soil consists primarily of decomposed granite—tremendous for drainage but providing poor nutritive value. For the last thirty-three years we have made compost using the manure, straw and shavings from various 4-H and FFA animal projects, plus leaves, grass, lawn clippings, etc. This we composted for up to two years and then added it to our vegetable gardens. It has worked wonderfully. When we decided to open our own commercial iris garden, we knew that we would need more compost than we could produce and sought out local suppliers. Thus began five years of trial and error iris gardening.

Too much nitrogen: In our first year we added about 3" – 4" of mushroom compost to the beds, along with a generous portion of 10-10-10 fertilizer, and rototilled it in. Then we discovered that mushroom compost was not only incredibly rich in nitrogen but also contained some salts. By the end of year one, we had cooked entirely several varieties of plants and lost many hundreds more to crown rot. That's when I made several phone calls to other iris growers and learned that iris don't like a lot of nitrogen.

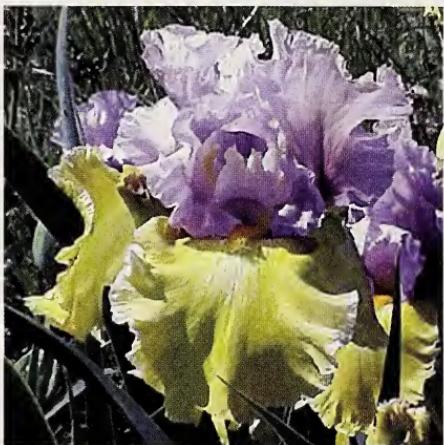
Not enough nitrogen: In our second year of production we found a local source of compost. This company had just begun to make the product and the price was right. So we ordered two truck loads. As we worked it into the soil, and again while planting, we discovered things

(continued on page 65)

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Alpine Lace Heavily laced red bearded amoena. Show stalks!

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(continued from page 63)

like metal, glass, plastic and paper in the compost. Then, less than a month before the bloom was due, the beds took on a very unhealthy yellow hue. It appeared that the problem was not enough nitrogen. Our lesson for year two was that if the composting process is not complete, the compost will continue breaking down in the soil, leaching it of necessary nutrients, and thus robbing the plants of those chemicals that they need to grow.

Weeds: By year three we were getting a lot smarter, or so we thought. We purchased compost from a new supplier, but once again we had problems. This year it was weeds—lots and lots of weeds. We had also used the compost as part of our potting mix and had to hand weed 1500 pots six or seven times. This was not fun! Our lesson for year three was that if the compost does not reach at least 160 degrees (F) at the center of the pile, the weed seed will not die.

Not learning from our third mistake: Again we ordered our compost from the second supplier, won over by his claim that a number of large commercial growers in our area used his mulch and compost. This time we added a slow release fertilizer and alfalfa pellets along with the compost to our beds. The iris did better but still we had weeds. We did mix our own potting soil using a third supplier. The pots looked wonderful and the weed problem in the pots all but disappeared. Ah ha!

Year Five: Supplier # 3 delivered all of the compost to our iris beds. This year we added a 5-10-10 slow release fertilizer and again alfalfa pellets. The weather cooperated and the plants grew well in most of the garden.

What We Learned: Compost that is not finished can lead to problems. Compost that is properly finished acts like a slow release fertilizer, holds moisture in the soil, and deters many insects.

The composting that we have done on the farm for over twenty-five years seemed so easy, but we were never in a hurry. We didn't realize that there could be problems using this product that I consider brown gold. We were wrong. The compost piles we made were left to cook for many years, we had lots of animals and lots of weeds, grass clippings, leaves, and fireplace ash. They were turned and watered when we thought about it but most of all we gave them time.

Not everyone needs to add compost every year the way we do. However, if you use compost at all, here is a check list for finding and using good compost:

1. Have your soil tested. Know what is missing and what you need to add. Contact your local agricultural agent, college or university. Request

any information they have on composting. Find out what classes you can take.

2. Purchase your compost from a reputable supplier. Check with local commercial growers if possible. Find out where they get their compost and if they are happy with the results. Did they have any weed, nutrient or insect problems?

3. Recognize that plants that are yellowing or weeds that have grown where no weed has grown before are problems that need to be addressed immediately.

Produce your own compost; it will help you understand the process. We use ours in our vegetable beds, herb gardens and demonstration beds.

Shaker Compost:

1 part mineral (ashes, lime or sand)

5 parts vegetable matter (straw, leaves, plant clippings, kitchen scraps, excluding meat products)

6 parts well-rotted animal manure.

Layer the wet and dry (use the dry as the top layer each time. This keeps away the flies and the odor.)

Add water (we set a sprinkler on the top of the pile on hot days)

Turn the pile. When our compost pile was small, we did it with a pitchfork or shovel. Now we use a front-end loader on the tractor.

Give it time. Our compost stack is 20' to 25' in length at any given time. As the pile reaches 4 to 5 feet in height and width, we begin a new stack right next to it. By the time we get to pile four (about two years), pile number one is about ready to use. ☺

Joe Pye Weed's Garden

Marty Schafer and Jan Sacks

337 Acton Street, Carlisle, MA 01741-1432

jpflowers@aol.com

Siberians and species galore. 2001 features nine siberian iris introductions - eight from Schafer/Sacks and one tetraploid from Tomas Tamberg. On the species iris frontier, Tomas also has a SPEC-X Versiliaev intro and Marty and Jan have two species intros - a cristata and a prismatic. This year's catalog also includes *Iris koreana* and *Iris odaesanensis* - the two new species from Korea, as well as several other species new to the Joe Pye Weed's list.

Please write (or e-mail with your street address) for our catalog.

We have a photo gallery of all the irises in our catalog on the web at

<http://www.geocities.com/jpflowers>

Dial Away Rot!

by Debby Cole, Washington State

9

N JANUARY, 2001, I RECEIVED A SERIES OF E-MAILS WHICH I FELT
were important enough to share with the entire region.

The originator of all this communication was Bruce Filardi, who is Assistant RVP of Region 13. Bruce had recently encountered a common problem in his garden, and decided to apply a solution of which he had recently read in his position as Assistant Editor of the *AIS Bulletin*. He liked his results so well that he broadcast the news to a long list of correspondents, and all the respondents sent their comments to the same list of people.

The principal parts of the exchange are printed below. All the respondents are widely-known, long-time iris growers whose names you may recognize. Note that all discussion pertains to bearded irises, which prefer a neutral to slightly alkaline soil. See what you think!

The initial message came from Bruce Filardi (Portland, OR):

“Don & Ginny Spoon, of Virginia, have been using Dial antibacterial liquid soap on iris rhizomes where they’ve found evidence of rot. Well, I tried this on two rhizomes about 3 weeks ago, and when I checked them a few days ago, ALL evidence of rot was gone! Maybe I was just lucky...”

First response was from Dave Silverberg (Molalla, OR):

“It is important to remember that *Erwinia carotovora*, the causative agent for bacterial soft rot in iris, is susceptible to only one antibiotic and that is Streptomycin!! Any reduction/curing of bacterial soft rot would probably come from the surfactant (in all probability a quaternary salt) added to the soap, without knowing the formulation of Dial antibacterial soap. What I would like to know is how long it took to correct the condition—hours, days, weeks?? My own personal experience with using Streptomycin (“Agri-Strep”) over the past 30 years is that the condition is cured totally within 12 to 24 hours.”

This drew input from Lynn Markham (Lunenburg, MA):

“Agri-Strep is usually effective within a day or so, although with serious invasion during hot, muggy summer spells it may have to be

repeated. Liquid Dial would certainly be cheaper! Anyway, since what happens here in muggy summers isn't always strictly *erwinia* but includes what I suspect is fungal in origin, we usually combine the Agri-Strep with a good systemic fungicide like Daconil—the combination "soup" is very effective.

"One caution about all of this—there seem to be varieties that are so susceptible to rot problems in general that even with the "soup" treatment they'll get reinfected and some will ultimately die despite repeated treatments. We should be watching for genetic susceptibility and trying to breed away from it, whatever we use for immediate relief!"

This was swiftly followed by input from the original source of Bruce's rot-remedy, Ginny (and Don) Spoon (Cross Junction, VA):

"We agree that the ultimate and long range answer is to selectively breed varieties that are not susceptible to rot, and we do cover that in our article "The Search for Constant Bloom" that will be in the January, 2001, *AIS Bulletin*, and specifically in our 9 page article "Iris Borer, Verbena Bud Moths, Voles and Soft Rot" in the April, 2000, issue of the *Bulletin*. But, for now, there are many iris varieties that are highly susceptible to rot that are unique and are useful for hybridizers. We give our seedlings no such treatment. They can die if they can't survive here. However, even under very wet conditions we have had a few of our introductions have problems here years later.

"Peter Thaler, one of Don's graduate students at Georgetown University, did a project in a graduate course for Dr. Chen where he isolated eight strains of bacteria from iris rhizomes with soft rot. He used 26 tests to determine that two of the bacterial strains were actually *Erwinia carotovora*, identical to the reference strain except they did not liquefy gelatin. These bacteria would liquefy carrot or potato sterile slices at low bacterial concentrations, yet liquefied iris rhizome sterile slices only at higher bacterial concentrations, showing the sliced iris rhizomes had some ability to callous and protect themselves.

"*Erwinia carotovora* is a large, fast-swimming bacterium with tufts of flagella at both ends. In wet soil the bacteria can spread out from one site up to eight feet in a few days. They can live symbiotically, aiding digestion in the guts of various dipterian flies, and can thus be transported even further distances from the source of soft rot. One often sees such flies congregating around soft rot outbreaks. These facts are ample cautions to not allow soft rot outbreaks to go untreated, or they might attack every susceptible variety in your garden. The bacterium produces lytic enzymes that dissolve the material that holds the cells

together so it turns into a mush. Other bacteria join in the feast and account for much of the odor associated with soft rot. *Erwinia* by itself actually has no odor.

“One of Don’s senior thesis students worked with a professor at the Medical Department who was comparing various antibacterial hand soaps and had found that Dial soap with Triclosan was the best all around, being the most effective for the most kinds of bacteria. Triclosan inactivates a key enzyme in bacteria that we lack, and it is so safe it is even used in toothpaste like Colgate Total.

“Don had tried about every remedy for soft rot known to irisarians when he was at Georgetown, including Comet and chlorox solutions, finding that they reduced plant vigor and amount of bloom. Originally Don was introduced to Agri-Strep (agricultural Streptomycin) by one of our club members and found it was fairly effective in controlling soft rot. Don then began using Agri-Strep for some years, and was concerned about the long-term effects, since it is known to cause hearing degradation and perhaps deafness if applied without adequate precautions. This could be a threat to garden visitors. Also, extensive agricultural use of antibiotics such as streptomycin can allow resistant strains of streptococcus to develop so the antibiotic won’t protect humans from disease-causing bacteria when it is taken internally.

“Don tried using one tablespoon of Miracle Gro (a liquid fertilizer) with the Agri-Strep to two gallons of water and he got better results, but the rot would come back in a few weeks as the Agri-Strep would break down quickly in moist soil. I (Ginny) had the idea of using the Dial hand soap on irises from reading an old article in the *AIS Bulletin* about using Phisoderm soap (an older antibacterial soap) for soft rot. Lower concentrations of the liquid Dial hand soap with Triclosan were quite effective at eliminating soft rot without harming plants. Then we tried it straight from the bottle and were able to save even advanced cases of soft rot. Also, we discovered that it is fairly stable in the soil and gave protection from the spring rot season on past the fall rot season.

“Triclosan is an antibacterial, not an antibiotic for internal use. So far, even with extensive use, only bacteria that naturally lack the enzyme that Triclosan inactivates are resistant to it.”

[Ed. note: Several other liquid antibacterial handsoaps also list Triclosan as their active ingredient.]

Lynn Markham replied, bringing up another angle:

“Thanks for all the detail on the subject—I think you’ve answered most of the questions I had, including how you actually apply the liquid Dial!

"One postscript to all of this, and it may or may not mean anything. Rot is not usually a big issue here but there was some trouble among the (Median) Odyssey guests last summer. Excessive water in mid-to-late summer was part of the problem, but still I was surprised because I haven't had much trouble with the "R-word" in SDBs over the years, and these were having problems when my TBs in the same bed were doing fine. HUH?! Anyway, it struck me that most of the problems were with plants originating where not only would the summers be considerably drier, but the soil would probably be on the alkaline side. Our soil tends to be fairly acid but I don't usually lime because my plants seem to do fine without it, provided the nutrient balance and soil structure are favorable. But I wasn't getting 100% cure of the rot, even with my antibiotic/fungicide "soup" and so, figuring it couldn't do any harm, I trotted out one afternoon and broadcast pelletized lime liberally over the entire bed. The rot stopped. Whether that was because fall was coming on, the weather was getting cooler and it would have stopped anyway, or because the plants got happier when the pH got closer to what they were used to, I don't pretend to know, but it's worth considering, and I wonder if any of you have something to share on the question?"

To which (AIS President) Clarence Mahan (McLean, VA) replied:

"I have had the same experience. I try to lime the bearded iris beds at least once a year, and have not in recent years had much problem with rot (except last year when it rained for almost 3 solid months and rot appeared in several clumps including, if you can believe it, *Iris germanica*!)."

[Ed. note: For purposes of this article, Clarence Mahan adds: "Of course, I have learned to be cautious in selecting new TB cultivars to add to my garden. I avoid those coming from breeding lines likely to rot here in the East. Every year I allow an exception or two, and buy an iris that strikes my fancy even though I know from its parentage that it will probably rot on me. These exceptions almost always rot the first winter. I look forward to seeing if the antibacterial soap has any effect on them."]

Thus ended the exchange.

I concluded from the last two entries that a soil pH too far from optimum for the plant allows inimical bacteria to flourish, similar to the situation in the human body, and that changing the pH toward the desired level helps discourage such bacteria and foster improved plant health. This is supported by an incident I have belatedly remembered. On the 1996 AIS National Convention (Sacramento), we visited the

garden of John and Lesley Painter, in the Napa Valley. I was struck by the uniformly blue-green and vigorous look of their irises, and asked the Painters if they gave the plants any special care that they thought produced that result. The answer?: "We give them extra calcium!" And lime contains calcium.

Don and Ginny Spoon asked to summarize the subject. They say:

"Find out what the problem is before you treat it. You are not going to cure fungal problems (patches of grey fuzz can be one symptom) with antibacterial soap; that takes bleach or Benlate. A plant needs four things to live: light, air, water, and nutrients. Plants (including irises) need air below the ground to breathe. Good soil has about 25% air. Warm air doesn't hold as much oxygen as cold air, so the soil that was adequate for the plant in winter may leave it gasping in spring and summer. If plants can't get enough oxygen, they can die. Just look at a path in the grass; if you want to know what killed the grass, it is the compacting of the soil, depleting the air to the roots."

"Work some organic matter and concrete sand into the soil for good air and water flow to the irises, and plant in raised beds for good drainage if you are in areas with ample rainfall." 

[This article originally appeared in the *Region 13 Newsletter*, Spring, 2001.]

AIS Display Screens

AIS now has two display screens available for your trade shows and fairs. If the one closer to you is already taken, please try the other one to see if it is available for your date. To order, contact one of the following:

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Fax (717) 338-0247

Remember to reserve early. The screens are shipped UPS collect, and your society pays the cost of returning the screens also. Directions for setting up and taking down are inside the cover of the case. The pictures are expensive—please handle carefully.

2001 INTRODUCTIONS FROM DAVE NISWONGER

AMBROSIA DESSERT (Niswonger '01) Sdlg 50-97: Pumpkin Cheesecake X Trans-Orange. TB, 34" (86 cm), M. This is a sib to Ambrosia Fool and is an orange amoena but a different shade of orange. The color is hard to describe but I would say the orange has a yellow infusion that makes it appear brighter. It has the same good branching, bud count and is fertile both ways. I think you will find it quite showy. \$40.00

DESIGN IN CANTALOUP (Niswonger '01) Sdlg BB 62-97: Champagne Junior X Electrique. BB, 25" (64 cm), M. This is close to an orange amoena but the standards are not white but more of an ivory. Perhaps there is a slight infusion of apricot since the midrib has a pinkish-apricot color. The falls are more of a buffy orange and the style arms have a touch of apricot. It has a nice orange beard. An interesting color combination I think you will enjoy. \$30.00

ELEVEN POINT RIVER (Niswonger '01) Sdlg Sp 2-98: Missouri Rainbows X *I. notha*. Spuria, 40" (101.6 cm), M. This is a first generation cross with the species, *I. notha*. There is some hybrid vigor from this F 1 cross. The blooms are a bit smaller than the pod parent, but it increases much more. The blooms on *I. notha* are really blue and there were various shades of a nice blue in this cross. This one is a medium blue with a small yellow signal. It makes five buds here in Missouri. The fertility is not good but if you are persistent you might get a seed or two. A clump shows lots of blooms. \$30.00

FORECASTING RAIN (Niswonger '01) Sdlg SDB 25-97: Welder's Flame X Tu Tu Turquoise. SDB, 12" (31 cm), M. A bitone black. The standards are lighter than the dark maroon velvety falls. The beard is a bushy dark blue-purple. Fertile both ways. The name was suggested by Von Long of Jefferson City, MO. \$15.00

GASCONADE RIVER (Niswonger '01) Sdlg Sp 11-99: Missouri Rainbows X *I. notha*. Spuria, 40" (101.6 cm), M. Another first generation species cross. This is a clean light blue with some white around the small yellow signal. A vigorous grower making a nice clump and like its sibs, the color does not fade in the sun. It is not very fertile. \$30.00

LEAPS AND BOUNDS (Niswonger '01) Sdlg 66-97: Betty Dunn X Imprimis. TB, 30" (76 cm), M. The standards are white with a hint of blue and the falls are pink-fuchsia set off with a dark tangerine beard. This is a fairly new color reminiscent of things from Barry Blyth. A photo of it can be seen in the July issue of the 1998 AIS Bulletin. \$40.00

NAVAJO BLUE (Niswonger '01) Sdlg 20-96: 34-94: (Charm City Choice x Timescape) X Just Magic. TB, 38" (97 cm), M. Distinctive blues are hard to find nowadays but I think you will find this one different enough to be recognizable. Its a light blue that becomes a darker blue around the hafts. The beard is pale blue and the tips are gold but the intriguing thing about the color is the hint of turquoise. It should be good on the show bench since it easily will hold four blooms open at one time. Fertile both ways. \$40.00

OUT IN MISSOURI (Niswonger '01) Sdlg Sib 5-93: Bishop's Pawn X Unknown. Siberian, 30" (76 cm), M. I think you will agree that a lot of great Siberians have come from Missouri—but not from me until now. This is a diploid with 28 chromosomes and blue with the blue becoming more intense near the center of the falls. You might see some turquoise in the style arms. The falls are wide with a small speck of white signal. \$25.00

RAIN MUSIC (Niswonger '01) Sdlg Sp 4-97: Sp 6-94: (((Sp 8-88: ((Sp 6-80: (Far Out X Redwood Supreme) x Unknown) x Firemist))) X Missouri Dreamland. Spuria, 40" (101.6 cm), M. As you can see from the parentage, this was supposed to be a pink spuria but it didn't turn out that way. Spuria crosses can be very unpredictable as is demonstrated here. It turns out that this is really a pretty nice light blue with a large yellow area in the falls. You could say that this has yellow falls with a rim of light blue. I would bet that a pink could come from this if you just had the right cultivar to cross with it. It's fertile so Good Luck. \$30.00

REAR VIEW MIRROR (Niswonger '01) Sdlg 79-97: (Honky Tonk Blues X Upside Down). TB, 36" (91 cm), Mid to late. This is a reverse blue amoena with the standards being a medium blue and the falls near white. The beard has a white base with the tips being tangerine. It is a vigorous grower producing many high quality reverse amoena seedlings. It was the best seedling in the 2000 Show of the SEMO Iris Society. EC2000. \$40.00

SIGN ME UP (Niswonger '01) Sdlg SDB 15-97: Chanted X Chubby Cheeks. SDB, 12" (31 cm), M. This is an interesting result coming from crossing a pink with a plicata but of course both of those colors are recessive. Well, its a deep yellow becoming deeper near the blue beard. Its a good vigorous grower clumping up pretty fast making a nice mound of color. The name was provided by Von Long of Jefferson City, MO. \$15.00

TICKETY BOO (Niswonger '01) Sdlg SDB 4-00: Pink Twilight X Unknown. SDB, 14" (36 cm), M. This chance pollination gave many interesting colors. This was one of the more interesting ones. Its a pinkish mauve with a shocking purple beard. It had three buds to the stalk and six stalks on a one year old plant. I lined out fourteen plants from it which may be too early to introduce it but I couldn't resist getting it into circulation. George Waters tells me that in England when things are neat and orderly, they are "ticky boo" hence the name for this plant that has those characteristics. \$15.00

WHITEWATER RIVER (Niswonger '01) Sdlg Sp 4-99: Missouri Rainbows X I. notha. Spuria, 40" (101.6 cm). This is the darkest blue from this cross. It has a small yellow signal. It will not set seed very easily. Whitewater River is where my forefathers settled in Missouri two hundred years ago. Can you imagine crossing the Mississippi River on ice with all those wagons, horses, cattle and other stock with enough provisions to feed them all that winter? This happened on Jan. 1st, 1800. They harvested their crops in Sept in North Carolina. \$30.00

CAPE IRIS GARDENS

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Warburton Medal 2000

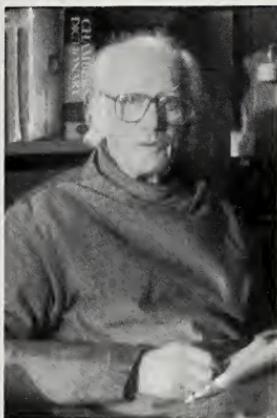
Thomas and Anne Blanco White

by Anne Blanco White, England

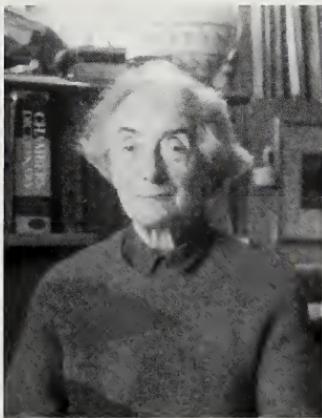
AM BECOMING ONE OF THE ANCIENTS OF DAYS IN THE BRITISH Iris Society: I joined the society in 1957 and drifted gently around the edges for some years until I became secretary in 1970 and later did two stints as President - with a gap in between. I have chaired the Joint Iris Committee and it is now the only main committee on which I sit. My real interests have always been in species irises; however, I seem to have been instrumental in encouraging the BIS to accept new developments in iris breeding, with the belief that if people were going to breed them, others would want to grow them. There was never any use in trying to breed on my own account; as soon as I got started on anything, someone would want me to grow something else because nobody else would! As far as cultivars go, I tend to specialise in the wet land irises which do well in my gardens.

Then the day came when I took over as secretary of the Species Group. We had, for some time, been dissatisfied with the information available about nearly everything except *I. pseudacorus* and wanted to expand on a series of papers which the Group had issued many years before. Besides, there were a great many new irises. We started trying to interest publishers in what we wanted to do. In an odd sort of way, when you really start trying to give a shape to such a project, it develops on its own. Finally Sidney Linnegar, the current BIS President, did a paper on the Laevigatae. This was submitted to Cambridge University Press with lots of lovely back-up material; they took it on and we produced *A Guide to Species Irises* which, while already out of date, is quite useful.

Thomas, my husband, has never taken more than a mild interest in irises as such, being rather a tree and shrub enthusiast. However, computers inevitably entered our house and Thomas bought a laptop and wanted something serious to work on as a way of familiarising himself with its habits. I reminded him that he had learned some Russian in his youth and suggested that he might translate Dr. Rodionenko's *Genus Iris* for me, as there was no English version, and I wanted to know what it said. He was a bit shaken at first, but in the end it worked fairly well. It was never meant to be more than an amateur project, and that does rather show in the



Thomas Blanco White



Anne Blanco White

production, but it is better than nothing! Since then Thomas has translated a good deal of additional invaluable material from Russian for me. When an unusual iris turns up, he now shows more of an interest of the 'Just what is that one?' variety, and he will even point out that I

have something in flower if he thinks I have missed it.

We are greatly honoured by the award of the Warburton Medal because, as amateurs in every sense, we don't really match up to people like Dr. Rodionenko who have devoted a lifetime of work to the Genus. 



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2001 Introductions

FOLLOW THE FLEET TB; 36", ML. A ruffled deep marine blue with yellow over blue beards, it has all of the star qualities expected from Stellar Lights x Breakers. Seven to nine ruffled flowers on well branched stalks, it is a garden or show iris. \$35.

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Bt or Not Bt

Genetically Engineered Iris?

by Terry Aitken, Washington State



HIS PAST WINTER, I TALKED TO A PROFESSOR AT THE University of Wisconsin about the Bt (*Bacillus thuringiensis*) gene as a project for irises. Inserting the Bt gene in irises could render them borer proof! What a boon for gardeners this would create for the iris world!

The Bt gene is presently infamous in genetically engineered corn that is insect resistant. There is no evidence that it is harmful to animals or humans. There is concern that there may be an allergic reaction in some people, and that possibility is being explored.

Since irises are not a food crop, except to insect pests, this is not a problem. The other concern is for Bt gene irises breeding with species irises. Is there a remote possibility of the gene escaping to breed with species irises, such as Siberians crossing with versicolors, or virginicas? Since no tetraploid bearded irises are native to North America, this is not a problem in North America. It would seem inevitable that the insect resistant iris would spread around the globe and could breed with tetraploid species in Eurasia. Then the question becomes "What environmental impact would an insect resistant iris have on planet earth?" Sounds like a win-win situation to me.

There is concern with the Bt gene that some borers may be resistant or immune. As with many insecticides that are used exclusively, we could kill off the vulnerable population and be left with an immune strain of borer. Then the battle would begin again. The cultural recommendation for Bt corn is to plant a percentage of the fields with untreated corn so that the vulnerable corn borers do not breed themselves into extinction. In the case of the iris borer, the natural host plant is the wild irises of the eastern U.S. which would work to prevent a mutant strain of borer from taking over the iris world.

Another question raised is "what happens to composted Bt irises?" Would the plant tissue affect worms or other soil inhabitants?

What logistics would be involved in such a project? It would take approximately five years of laboratory work, at a current cost of about \$25,000. per year to realize this goal. More research would need to be done to analyze the logistics involved.

I would speculate that such irises would be patented and be certified as a Bt carrier. Succeeding populations would have to be tested and certified as Bt carriers. Which groups of irises would be selected for such a project? What consortium would control the patent? Anybody need a project? ☺

Neil Bertinot

In Memoriam

by Ken Durio, Louisiana

NEIL BERTINOT OF OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA, PASSED AWAY September 25th, 2000 at the age of 69, following a three year battle with cancer. He is survived by his wife Lorraine, three sons, two daughters and their families.

Neil served in the United States Air Force. He was an agricultural engineer. He worked briefly in the family business, Bertinot Tractor and Implement Company, and for Bordelon Motors Company. Following that he taught civil engineering technology at T. H. Harris Vocational Technical School for twenty years, where he became the head of the department.

Neil was a long time member of the Society for Louisiana Irises and a dedicated hybridizer of many choice Louisiana irises. He introduced a number of these, including the velvety dark violet JERI in 1985. This went on to win the Mary Swords Debillion Medal in 1994.

Neil had an interest in many other kinds of plants, including daylilies, fruit trees and berries. He was a kind, friendly, modest and generous man who was always ready to share his time, knowledge and his iris plants with beginning hybridizers and iris lovers. He will be greatly missed, although we will still have his lovely creations to enjoy forever. ☺

[Excerpted from *The Society for Louisiana Irises Newsletter*, No. 182, Winter 2000.]



Miller's Manor Gardens

12788 E 191st St Ph: 317-770-7678
 Noblesville, IN 46060 Fax: 317-776-0323
 email: lynda.miller@gateway.net

2001 INTRODUCTIONS

CHOCOLATE SUNDAE (L. Miller) SDB, 11", ML. This little one looks good enough to eat. Standards are canary yellow smothered in Swiss chocolate. Falls are canary yellow stitched chocolate with gold beards. Style arms are pale chocolate ribbed darker. 3 buds. 1594E: ((Smidget X Sniffs'n' Sneezes) X (Smidget X Baja)) X Input \$15.00

DAZZLE ME (L. Miller) SDB, 10", M. Striking doesn't begin to describe the dazzling colors in this bold and beautiful iris. Standards and style arms are apricot sitting atop round black cherry falls edged in apricot. Beards are cream tipped tangerine. 2 buds, very vigorous. 11098: Black Cherry Delight X Pele \$15.00

FEISTY (L. Miller) SDB, 15", M. Brightly glowing, very round and lightly ruffled orange pink blossoms have a golden orange glow around intense tangerine beards. 3 buds. 1394 D: Neon Pixie X Torchy \$15.00

BERRY MAGIC (L. Miller) IB, 22", E. Standards are raspberry pink streaked darker. Falls are cream pink bordered and dotted full raspberry pink accented with coral beards. 4 buds. 30196: Color Brite X Sheer Class \$17.50

CONNECT THE DOTS (L. Miller) MTB, 23", M. Silver lavender washes over the white ground of the standards. Falls are white very heavily dotted deep lavender. Beards are gold over white. 7 buds, good branching. 2594B: Jill Welch X Bangles \$17.50

SOMEWHAT QUIRKY (R. Probst) MTB, 21", M. Blossoms are clear, clean, and crisp looking. This perky MTB has creamy yellow standards. Falls are light lavender lined and veined white and accented by golden orange beards. 91 PQX28RJ3: Pretty Quirky X Real Jazzy \$17.50

FINAL CALL (L. Miller) TB, 40", L. Worth the wait for the grand entrance this richly toned lightly laced iris makes. Standards are full orchid pink with falls of magenta orchid. Interesting beards are magenta tipped dark coral. 7-8 buds carried on extra strong stalks. 10096C: Newly Wed X Enchanting \$40.00

LOVIE DOVIE (L. Miller) TB, SA, 32", M. You'll love this long blooming full pink iris with slightly deeper hafts. Coral beards bring attention to the orchid pink horns. Heavy substance, 9 buds. H3297A: (Mimi X Jester) X Noble Lady \$40.00

PIANO MAN (L. Miller) TB, 36", M. This iris strikes a bold chord in the garden. Standards are white veined buff, style arms are creamy edged buff yellow. Falls are flared, ruffled, and round covered in velvety plum black with a white rayed spot around light purple beards tipped old gold. 8 buds. It has been a real showstopper in the garden. 4097A: Wench X Momentum. \$40.00

Add \$4.50 for postage if ordering from this ad. Send \$2 for a descriptive catalog.

Byard LeRoy Davidson

1918-2000

by Jean Witt, Washington State

B. LEROY DAVIDSON, LONG TIME AIS MEMBER AND ONE OF THE founders of the AIS section, SIGNA, died in Bellevue, Washington at age 82 on November 28, 2000 after a brief illness. He was the last of four brothers, and is survived by his sister Sybl and his life partner of 58 years, Ferdinand Minici.

Roy was born in Kendrick, Idaho, and grew up on the family farm near Colton, Washington. He learned gardening through helping his parents with their vegetable and flower gardens on the farm. After studying botany at Washington State University in Pullman from 1935 to 1939, he moved to the Seattle area where he pursued a successful career as a florist, and became an enthusiastic participant in the Northwest horticultural community.

In 1956 Roy registered several collected color forms of *I. missouriensis*, the Western Blue Flag of the Palouse prairies. He made numerous collecting trips to southwestern Oregon and northern California, selecting outstanding color forms of a number of iris species. Most of these were never registered, but were shared with friends of like interests. Grown under garden names such as "Moon Lad", "Roy's Gold" and "Lemonade Springs", many are still found in Northwest gardens.

In the early 1960s, Roy was active in species round robins, and in 1968, with Bruce Richardson of Hannon, Ontario, and others, organized the Species Iris Group of North America (SIGNA) which became a section of AIS. He served as its first chairman from 1968 to 1978, writing articles and collecting seeds in the wild for the seed exchange. In conjunction with the Portland, Oregon, AIS convention in 1972, he organized a "species" tour which made a loop out to the coast and back to view *I. tenax* in the wild. His Bellevue, Washington, garden—built in wetlands—was on tour for the 1984 AIS convention in Seattle. Its extensive plantings of Siberians, versicolors and other water irises demonstrated the value of these beardless iris types in the well-planned garden scene.

Roy was active in such groups as the Alpine Garden Society, the Scottish Rock Garden Club, NARGS (North American Rock Garden Society), and the American Penstemon Society. The *I. pseudacorus* hybrid



Roy Davidson

'Roy Davidson' is one of several plants that bear his name. Others include the *Pulmonaria* 'Roy Davidson', and *Lewisia cotyledon* var. *fimbriata* 'Roy Davidson'.

In recent years Roy had been working on his much-anticipated book on the genus *Lewisia*, brought out last spring by Timber Press. My final memory is of him sitting in the lobby of the NARGS convention hotel last July, chatting with old friends and signing the book. He will be greatly missed in the Northwest's horticultural community and by his many friends, world wide. ☺

MAD IRIS GARDEN **BOB DUNN**

4828 Jela Way, North Highlands, CA 95660
(916) 482-0562 e-mail: madiris@cwnet.com

2001 Introductions

DIVINE INTERVENTION (Mary Dunn by Bob Dunn) Sdlg. M2148E TB EM 36" Ruffled plum plicata, small white area in falls center, style arms plum, beard bronze, good branching and many buds. (Patterns x Power Surge) \$35.00

PANDORA'S PERFECTA (Mary Dunn by Bob Dunn) Sdlg. M2013AA TB EM 36" Stds. light lavender overlaid in deeper rosy lilac, style arms pale lavender. Falls light lavender overlaid deeper rosy lilac, with darker edge, beard lavender, yellow in heart. (Perfecta x Pandora's Purple) \$35.00

ABSOLUTE DELIGHT (Bob Dunn) Sdlg. B1058B TB EM 35" White ground plicata with small grape violet veins and lines, style arms grape violet, beard yellow, tipped in blue. (Eagles Flight x Trace) \$35.00

PLATINUM PLUS (Mary Dunn by Bob Dunn) Sdlg. M2082-1 TB EM 36" Stds. wisteria blue, Falls white ground wisteria blue, very little stitching on edging, beard pale blue, ruffled, good branching with many buds. (Social Butterfly x Freestyle) \$35.00

LAST KNIGHT (Mary Dunn by Bob Dunn) Sdlg. M2090C TB EM 36" Stds. plum purple self. Falls plum purple self, style arms plum beard midnight blue, ruffled, good branching and many buds (Star Master x 931: (747: (((Bang x Edenite) x Martel) x Royal Heritage) x Manuel) x Plum Dazzle) x 699: (Intuition x Cranberry Ice))) x Larry Gaulter \$35.00

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Misty Hill Farms

2001 INTRODUCTIONS

DEE BEEVERS (P. Dickey 2001) TB 30" L. S. a light creamy yellow; F. light creamy yellow, center washed white; B. bright yellow. This flower is named for an inspiring person who has passed on. Dee will be missed by all. \$35.00

DELICATE MISS (P. Dickey 2001) TB 32" M. S. white with medium blue violet stitching; F. white with medium blue violet plicata edge with blue violet dotting up the middle of the fall-, B. orange with light blue tip. Delicate Miss is a gentle lady of the garden, but don't let her gentle coloring throw you! She is very proud of herself and displays lots of flowers for an extended period of time. Vigorous grower. \$35.00

INEZ FERRARI (J. Dickey 2001) TB 30", L. Inez blooms late but it's definitely worth waiting for! The S. are red mulberry; the falls are red mulberry with an electric violet vein down the center of the fall. The whole flower looks sculptured of the finest velvets. Inez is a real life fireball and so is the flower! Welcome to Jack, introducing his first flower this year! \$35.00

UPON A STAR (P. Dickey 2001) TB SA 35" M. A sib to When You Wish. S. are baby pink washed peach; Falls are baby pink washed peach with a white wash over the entire fall. The beard is orange in the throat shading to light orange ending in a 1" white horn. Good grower--loves to show off it's beautiful flowers. \$35.00

YES I'M BLUE (P. Dickey 2001) TB 46" (!) M. Yes, that is 46" consistently in our garden. This amazing flower is a beautiful medium royal blue self, washed blue silver in the center. Now add a sweet fragrance to boot and Yes I'm Blue cannot be ignored. \$35.00

PAST INTRODUCTIONS

FOOL'S GOLD (Dickey'98) TB 29" M. S. Med. golden yellow; F. deeper golden yellow with flakes of gold over entire flower; B. yellow orange. Large flowers \$15.00

MISS LEMON (Dickey'96) TB 35" M. S. soft lemon yellow; F. soft lemon yellow, washed white, slightly darker yellow edging and yellow Beards. Very large flowers, lemon fragrance, very vigorous grower. \$5.00

RASPBERRY CHEESECAKE (Dickey'97) TB 30" E. Creamy standards top white falls that are edged with a rich raspberry stitching. A garden favorite. \$10.00

WHEN YOU WISH (Dickey'98) TB 31" M RE. S. Medium baby pink; F. medium baby pink, washed white; red orange beards end in large baby pink flounces. A beautiful baby pink flower (a pink mesmerizer), a space ager with an excellent fragrance and it reblooms for us in the garden. Wishes do come true! \$20.00

Jack & Phyllis Dickey
PO Box 1521, Healdsburg, Ca. 95448
(707)433-8408

Chet Tompkins

1912 - 2001

by Keith Keppel, Oregon

DESCRIPTION-WRITER EXTRAORDINAIRE; PROLIFIC HYBRIDIZER OF irises—with a good many daylilies and hostas as well; colorful and controversial at times, with a memory matched with an incredible imagination. During an active iris breeding program which spanned more than sixty years, Chet Tompkins named and introduced more than 500 varieties, all tall bearded but for a handful of medians.

The iris story began in earnest while he was working at a Sioux City, Iowa nursery. On a delivery trip to Illinois, one stop was at Ida Mary Pattison's Quality Gardens, one of the leading importers and purveyors of modern irises. Back at the nursery, he demonstrated how to pollinate an iris. When a pod formed, seed was saved and planted. From 1936 to 1998, he continued to pollinate and plant.

Nurseryman W. S. Snyder had worked up a red line, and Chet began with his seedlings in conjunction with named varieties. He met Agnes Whiting, who lived about fifty miles away, and who would go on to win the Dykes Medal for BLUE RHYTHM a dozen years later. Agnes, in turn, introduced him to the wonders of the Sass gardens near Omaha. Both Jake and Hans Sass had extensive breeding programs and each would win Dykes Medals in the 1940's. Thrown in with such illustrious iris company, Chet's iris ambitions were fired. In 1942 he issued his first small iris list; by 1944 the expanded Fleur de Lis catalogue included Tompkins introductions. By the year 1955 the catalogue color cover had expanded to include color inside, and the listings expanded also. By then Hans and Jake Sass were gone, but Jake's son Henry was hybridizing and Chet was co-introducing Henry's things, as well as some of the new Whiting varieties.

But all was not well. The Midwest was suffering its cyclical scorch epidemic, and even daylilies were falling to the disease. Also, a longer growing season was desired. Through friendship with the DeForests at Canby, Oregon, Chet was able to find a suitable acreage to transplant Fleur de Lis Gardens. A vast crop of seed pods was made on the

Iowa plants in 1955, to be planted in Oregon along with the relocated rhizomes, and in 1956 the first Oregon catalogue was mailed.

This was the golden age of Tompkins hybridizing. Success had come earlier from the red line. EBONY ECHO, introduced in 1948, won an Award of Merit in 1953. The fabulous Manana, hailed as the reddest iris of the day, brought much attention to the young hybridizer. Unfortunately, Manana proceeded to overbloom to extinction before introduction, but other reds were to follow, including DEFIANCE, GREAT DAY, PRIVATEER, CRESCENDO.

Oregon introductions during the next twenty years included the plicatas FULL CIRCLE, CROWN POINT, RIBBON ROUND, RIMFIRE and JETFIRE; the tan blend ALLAGLOW, which won the Premio Firenze in 1960, brown GINGERBREAD CASTLE, and brown red STARBURST; bicolors MADAME BUTTERFLY, TRUDY, POSTSCRIPT, CIMARRON STRIP, and CAMELOT ROSE, the latter being a Dykes runner-up; tangerine derivatives HERALD ANGEL, MAUDIE MARIE, PRETTY PLEASE, and the ultra-pink OVATION; and creamy white TINSEL TOWN. In 1962 Chet was awarded the AIS Hybridizer's Medal.

The crossing program slowed to a near-halt; from 1977 through 1985 no catalogues were issued, as Chet turned full attention to dealing with antiques, a prior sideline. Tompkins introductions were made by Cooley's Gardens or North Cascade Gardens. In 1986 the Fleur de Lis catalogues resumed, continuing until 1999. Roris Gardens also introduced a few Tompkins irises during the late 1980s, early 1990s. Some of the more popular irises introduced during this last span include SHEER BLISS, APOLLODORUS, DANCE FEVER, HAWAIIAN HALO, MEGABUCKS, BURNING BRIGHT, STRAWBERRY SWIRL, and HEAVEN'S EDGE.

Unfortunately, Chet had a penchant for gilding the lily, embellishing the pedigree. Parentages might be expanded to appear more elaborate, more modern, more commercial. Or elements might be dropped if he were at odds with a hybridizer and didn't want to acknowledge using that hybridizer's achievement. The flowers shine just as brightly, but the "roots" may be obscure—genealogists beware! And so comes to a close a very long and very colorful chapter in the History of Iris. ☙

Julius Wadekamper

1930 - 2001

by Joan Cooper, Minnesota

JULIUS WADEKAMPER, AGE 70, HORTICULTURIST, TEACHER, WORLD traveler, and friend to many American Iris Society members, died January 10th in Parkdale, Oregon. Besides iris, he had an abiding interest in daffodils, daylilies, rock garden plants and, most especially, lilies.

Julius left his calling as a Christian Brother teaching in Santarem, a Brazilian town on the Amazon River, to return to Minnesota where he taught at Shattuck Academy, and later at the high school in Buffalo, Minnesota, from where he retired to his own business. Always the willing and able teacher, he shared his knowledge of iris of all kinds (as well as other plants), both formally in classes, and informally in conversation. He also wrote extensively for many specialty plant organizations.

Julius served as president of the Iris Society of Minnesota in 1970 and 1971, RVP of AIS Region 8 from 1977 to 1979, and on the AIS Board of Directors from 1980 through 1984. He was a certified AIS judge, and frequently taught judges' training classes throughout the country. He was active in several AIS Sections, especially the Siberian Iris Society, serving as president in the late 70s.

Julius chose the name Borbeleta (the Portuguese word for butterfly) for his gardens. He became less involved with iris as his lily business became more demanding of his time. However, he did raise a number of irises, including a large collection of spurias. He taught many of us to value other-than-tall-bearded iris.

Julius hybridized and introduced several irises: SDBs, TBs, and a few Siberians, including BORBELETA (1979), for which he received an HM. In 1981 he won the Minnesota Hybridizer's Award. He also hybridized and introduced numerous lilies.

Julius traveled all over the world, frequently on horticultural trips, where he often served as tour guide. He planned and conducted a 26 day tour of European gardens and horticultural landmarks. He represented the US on a trip to Latvia to exchange information on lily breeding. He led a group to tour the Amazon area, familiar from his younger days. He made friends in horticulture wherever he went.

Eventually Julius sold Borbeleta Gardens to begin his Oregon enterprise, Willowwood (named for one of his early lily introductions), specializing in rare and unusual plants. He moved to Oregon a very few years ago, but unfortunately, due to failing health, was only able to make a small start at his dream. He was known to his friends as a wonderfully generous and helpful person, sharing not only his knowledge but, often, his plants as well. ☺

Lois Kuntz

In Memoriam

Lois KUNTZ, 75 YEAR RESIDENT OF EAST WENATCHEE, WASHINGTON, died in September, 2000. Her family, friends and neighbors remember her as a wonderful mother and grandmother, with legendary talent at sewing, embroidery, knitting and crocheting.

In addition, Lois was an avid gardener, and loved irises enough to try hybridizing. Hers is the ultimate backyard success story. The only iris she ever registered was introduced for her by Luella Noyd in 1965. It was voted an HM in 1966, an AM in 1968 and the Dykes Medal in 1971: DEBBY RAIRDON. ☺

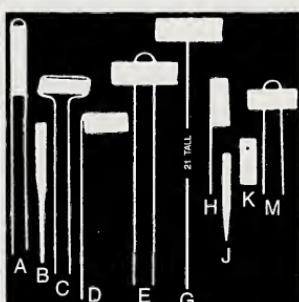
[Excerpted from *Region 13 Newsletter*, Spring, 2001.]

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Orris Root

and the New Calendar Cover

by George Waters, California



HOWN ON THE 2002 CALENDAR COVER IS *Iris pallida* growing en masse in a Tuscan field. It has largely replaced the white-flowered *I. florentina* as the commercial source of orris root. The reason for the shift is unclear, but perhaps *I. pallida* produces stouter rhizomes in Tuscany, and therefore gives a better crop of orris.

Effie Osborne, long time secretary to the British Iris Society in the 1960s, was among those invited to judge the Florence iris trials and she described the experience in the 1966 *Iris Yearbook*. Her visit to Florence included the *Festa del Giaggiolo* (Festival of the Iris), at San Polo, a village several miles south of Florence. She describes the exhibition of crafts associated with irises, cottages draped with garlands of the flowers, great bowls of them standing in doorways, the music, singing, and dancing, and most impressive: "the fields of delicate mauve ... more spectacular than the white irises (*I. florentina*) would have been."

In the *Iris Yearbook* for 1962, BIS President Percy King discusses the many uses, past and present, of orris root. He mentions the powdered form purchased by the ton each year for blending in cosmetics. He tells us: "At one time iris roots were dried and shaped into fingers used for babies cutting teeth. The juice was thought to be good for the digestion." He also explains that the essential oil giving fragrance to violets was extracted only at great expense. The same oil was then found in orris root and extracted more cheaply. This discovery, he says, led to the production of synthetic oils claimed by chemists to be identical to that found in orris and violets.

So the fortunes of the villagers of San Polo rose and fell with the need for orris root. Let us hope that cosmetics industries in Britain, Germany, and the United States, which annually buy tons of it, continue to flourish. Ladies! Powder your faces, that the *Festa del Giaggiolo* may continue forever. 

News About the Dues

Increase

by *Anne N. Whitehead, AIS Membership Secretary*

A

AT THE FALL 2000 MEETING THE AIS BOARD OF DIRECTORS approved a dues increase for several categories of AIS memberships. Only Single Annual, Dual Annual, Single Annual Overseas, and Dual Annual Overseas memberships were affected. Dues on Youth Memberships, Life Memberships, and Triennial Memberships were not raised. The increase was to have taken effect January 1, 2002, and this date was published in the Minutes of the Board Meeting in the January, 2001 *AIS Bulletin*.

In February the Membership Secretary suggested to President Mahan that, consistent with AIS membership policies, October 1, 2001 was the appropriate date for the increase to become effective. The President conveyed this recommendation to the Board of Directors, and the Board approved the change.

Effective October 1, 2001 dues for all Annual memberships will increase by \$2.00 so that the rate for a Single Annual membership will be \$20.00; the rate for a Dual Annual will be \$25.00; the rate for a Single Annual Overseas will be \$25.00; and the rate for a Dual Annual Overseas will be \$28.00.

Current AIS members who wish to extend their memberships may pay for Annual memberships at the old rates through September 30, 2001. Those persons must ensure that their monies are received by the AIS Membership Secretary no later than September 30, 2001 to qualify for the old rates.

Persons joining or rejoining AIS from January 1, 2001 through March 31, 2001 will have a Join Date of January 1, 2001, and they may pay for an Annual membership at the old rate.

New members joining AIS from April 1, 2001 through September 30, 2001 will have a Join Date of July 1, 2001, and they will receive six bonus months of membership. They may pay for an Annual membership at the old rate.

Persons paying to reinstate previous memberships from April 1, 2001 through September 30, 2001 will have a New Join Date of January 1, 2001. They are not eligible for the bonus months mentioned above unless they have been away from AIS for two full years. If eligible for bonus months, they will have a New Join Date of July 1, 2001. In either case they may pay for an Annual membership at the old rate.

All persons paying to join AIS or reinstate previous AIS memberships from October 1, 2001 through December 31, 2001 will have a Join Date of January 1, 2002, and they must pay for Annual memberships at the new rate.

All current AIS members paying to renew or extend Annual memberships after September 30, 2001 must pay at the new rate and this will be the rate in effect on the Renewal Notice sent to expiring members in Fall 2001.

Apparently there has been some confusion about discounts on dues for older members. Please note that only Life Memberships are discounted 15% for those 65 years of age and older. And remember that AIS offers a flexible payment plan which allows you to purchase a Life Membership over the course of no more than two years.

If you have questions about the effective date of the dues increase, or would like more information about Life Memberships or the Life Membership Payment Plan, please contact the Membership Secretary. ☺

In Memoriam

<i>Foster Allen</i> (Washington)	<i>Marie A. Myers</i> (New York)
<i>Clifford W. Benson</i> (Missouri)	<i>Irene Nelson</i> (Texas)
<i>Wanda S. Blankenship</i> (Texas)	<i>Helen J. Osenbaugh</i> (Kansas)
<i>W. H. Clough</i> (Pennsylvania)	<i>D. L. Reath</i> (Michigan)
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<i>Margaret McCraw</i> (California)	<i>Julius Wadekamper</i> (Oregon)
<i>Franklin W. Marr</i> (North Carolina)	<i>Beatrice M. Weitzel</i> (Maryland)
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<i>Mrs. Fred Matzke</i> (New York)	

AIS

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Plank	\$50.00	Iris Society of Dallas (TX)
Hudson	\$50.00	Library Fund (L)
Pocklington	\$50.00	AIS, Region 13
Nichols	\$50.00	Research & Scholarship (R/S)
Niswonger	\$50.00	San Diego/Imperial CO.s
Morris	\$100.00	Iris & Daylily
Aitken	\$50.00	Busy Hands Garden Club (CA)
4/13/ Total Collected	\$450.00	Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society (CA)
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		Show Me Iris Society (MO)
		Garden City Area Iris Club (KS)

Active Funds Symbols

General Fund ^G
 Library Fund ^L
 Research & Scholarship Fund ^{R&S}
 Clarke Cosgrove Youth Achievement ^{CYA}
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 Electronic Check List ^{ECL}
 1999 Decennial Check List ^{DCL}
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Mail to: Jeanne Clay Plank, Secretary of Donations
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Section Slides Available:

The various Sections of AIS also have slide sets available for rent. These feature irises of each respective group. Rental fee is \$5.00 per set, unless noted otherwise. Requests for these slide sets should be submitted as follows:

Arils and Arilbreds: Order from Scott Jordan, 3500 Avenida Charada NW, Albuquerque, NM 87107. Rental fee \$7.50. Check to Aril Society International.

Dwarf: Dorothy Willott, 26231 Shaker Blvd., Beachwood, OH 44122-7111. Check to Dwarf Iris Society. Rental fee \$7.50.

Historic Iris Preservation Society (HIPS): Contact Joan Cooper, 212 West Country Rd. C, St. Paul, MN 55113. Rental fee \$7.50. Check to HIPS.

Japanese: Order from John Coble, 9823 E. Michigan Ave., Galesburg, MI 49053. Check to Japanese Iris Society.

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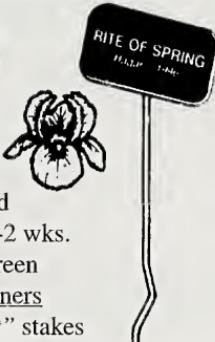
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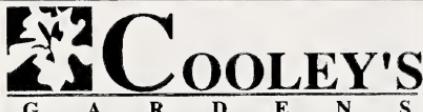
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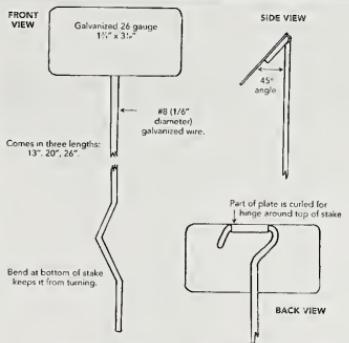
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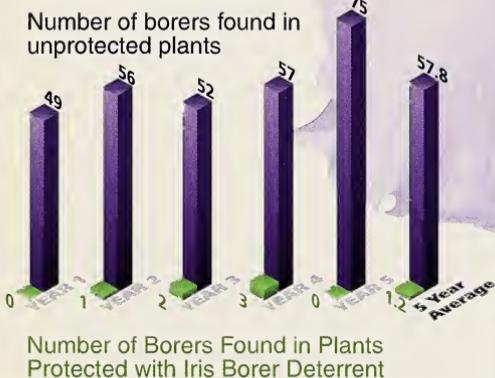
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